

2006-07 Premier's Awards

The Kicking Horse Canyon Project team and our Provincial Field Services Management team were both finalists for the very competitive Premier's Awards.

The Kicking Horse Canyon Project was the Premier's Award recipient in the Innovation Award category. The project was recognized for its incredible engineering and environmental techniques and the new business practices that are making possible this dramatic and challenging project in one of B.C.'s most important trade and transportation corridors.

The Provincial Field Services Management team was the Finalist Award recipient for the Premier's Organizational

Excellence award. As a distributed team of 116 people, funded entirely through cost recoveries, they have built a successful business unit in an atmosphere of accountability and collaboration. They have also done an amazing job promoting the provincial government's Five Great Goals, and they have helped the ministry create an employee-friendly environment where innovation is encouraged and supported.

Both groups are made up of hard-working and deserving individuals who truly represent the excellence that makes this ministry great. Congratulations to both of them.



Premier Gordon Campbell presents the Premier's Award to the Kicking Horse Canyon Project Team. Back row from left to right: Jon Jensen, Steve Hollett, Tim Stevens, and Richard Fyfe. Front row from left to right: Darcy Grykuliak, Murray Tekano, Tara Moultrie, and Joe Camilleri.



The Provincial Field Services Management Team with the Premier's Organizational Excellence Finalist Award. From left to right – Standing: Brian Twiname, Barry Bergstrom, Jessica McDonald, Don Shaw, and Mike Newton. Seated: Keith Callander, Kevin Richter, Shanna Mason, and Bob Penner. Absent: Don Wharf.

Editor's Note...

*"The farther backward you can look,
the farther forward you are likely to see."*

— Winston Churchill

Passing on the baton is a difficult thing to do and I am excited for the opportunity to be the new acting editor of the Road Runner. Cindi Trowbridge is an exemplary role model and I would like to thank her for her generosity in sharing her wisdom and lessons learned with me before she left the ministry. She is missed by many and she has left behind a legacy of quality, passion and dedication to her job. Thanks Cindi and I dedicate this issue of the Road Runner to you.

— Jane Hawksworth



Photos of Mount Atlin (top) and Muncho Lake (bottom). Submitted by Brian Taylor, Bridge Technician.

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Minister Falcon Visits Major Slide Events in Hope

Submitted by Perry Dennis
District Manager, Transportation

In the late afternoon early evening of Sunday, March 11 during an extreme rain storm which measured 176mm as recorded at the Wahleach Power Station - the earth began to move.

The ground became saturated, slid and dumped approximately 200,000 cubic meters of soil, rock and wood debris on the Trans Canada Highway at seventeen separate locations. The slide events occurred in the Lower Mainland District, South Coast Region near Hope and extending from Popkum to Peters Road.

Minister Falcon was escorted into the slide zone by shuttle the following Friday, March 16th to examine the damage first hand. The Minister took on the appearance of "Commander and Chief" - rallying the troops on the front line.

The Transport Minister stopped many times during the visit talking with ministry staff and contractors alike,



who worked diligently on the clean up, extending words of encouragement and gratitude for a "job well done".

Minister Falcon conducted an interview with Global Television prior to being whisked off to Lytton by helicopter, announcing the Trans Canada Highway would be open the following day an entire week earlier than originally expected. The Ministry Staff and the Contractor, EMIL Anderson worked tirelessly to make this happen.

Kasiks High Weather Station



Photo above was taken in the Summer of 2005. There was about a metre of snow on the top of the mountain. Note the heights of the darker marking on the tall pole and the height of the shorter antenna. Photo right was taken April 1, 2006. The antenna had to be dug out.



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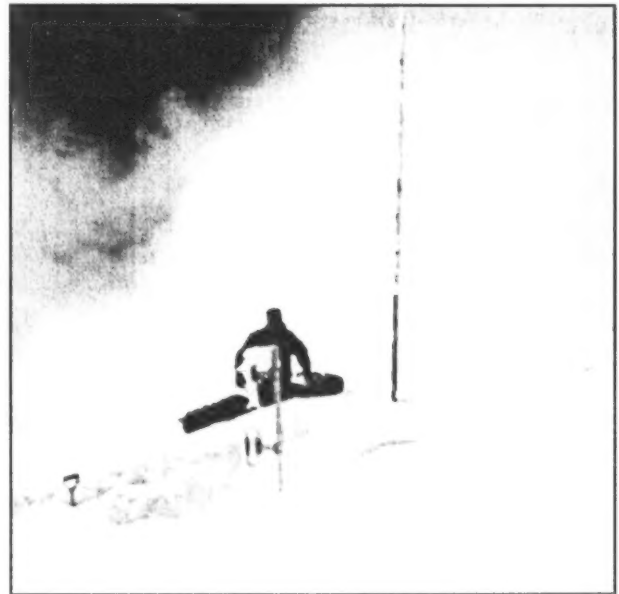
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Pacific Gateway Executive Committee – Asia-Pacific Mission 2007

The Ministry recently organized its first Asia-Pacific mission. Minister Falcon led the mission to China, Korea, and Japan from May 18 to 26. I carried on to Taiwan with some of our delegation on May 27 and May 28.

During the mission, we visited four countries, seven cities, seven shipping lines, five airlines, four ports, a shipyard, an air cargo terminal, a gantry crane manufacturer, a bridge project and the plant building the Canada Line trains. Our itinerary was 36 pages long!

It is humbling to witness first hand the growth experienced in these countries. The Port of Yangshan near Shanghai is particularly impressive. The Yangshan archipelago was a series of fishing villages in the East China Sea five years ago. Today, it is the second largest container port in the world. A city for 800,000 people is under construction to service the port. A 30 kilometre long six lane bridge connects the new city and the port with virtually no traffic.

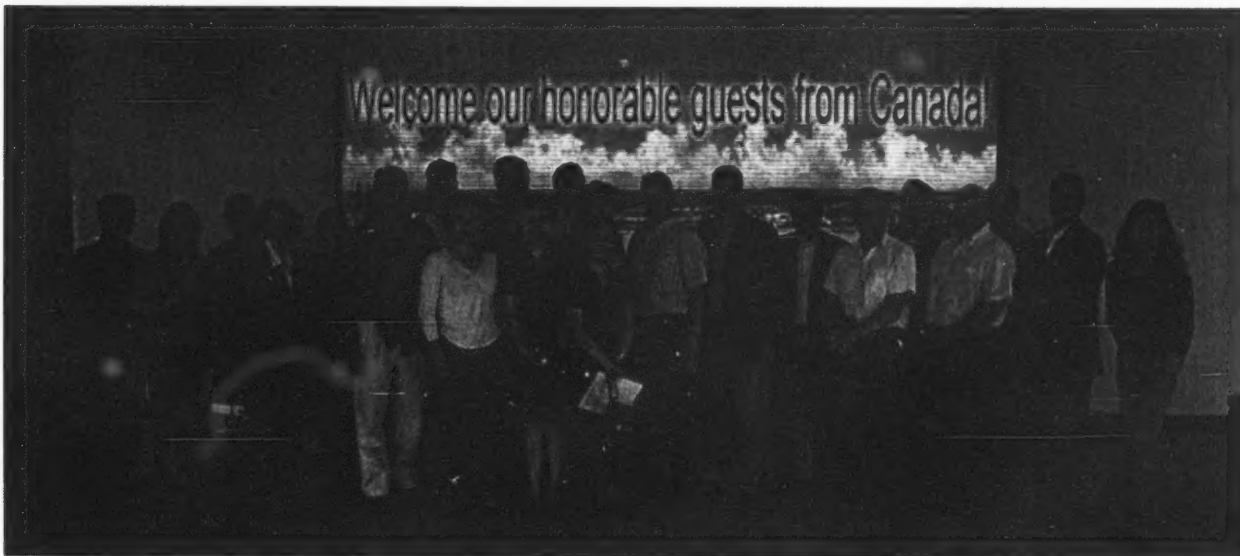
We achieved a number of goals during the mission. At every stop, we promoted Canada's Pacific Gateway as a desirable supply chain to major North American markets.

We highlighted the formation of Pacific Gateway Executive Committee. The committee is made up of senior transportation executives from our airports, ports and railways and deputy ministers from British Columbia and the federal government. The committee is unique in North America.

Shipping lines were very interested in the expansions now underway at our ports. The new Fairview Container Terminal opens this fall at the Port of Prince Rupert. Deltaport Berth 3 opens in 2009 and the Port of Vancouver has recently requested expression of interest for Terminal 2 at Deltaport.

Our ports are operating near their capacity at the moment and that is part of the reason more capacity is needed. Operational problems can result in container backlogs. It was very important to reassure port stakeholders that our Pacific Gateway remains reliable, that recent congestion has been address and contingency plans are now in place.

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Pacific Gateway Executive Committee and Consulates attending Asia tour.

Asia-Pacific Mission 2007 (continued)

Much of the infrastructure now being built in Asia is privately financed. I had the opportunity to tour the Incheon Bridge Project, connecting Seoul's Incheon International Airport and suburban Seoul. The 23 kilometre long high level bridge is a P3, similar to our Port Mann Bridge/Highway 1 project. The Province is a leader in P3 procurement and the mission was an excellent opportunity to highlight projects already under management and those now being planned.

We attracted a great deal of interest in each of the countries we visited. Minister Falcon conducted several news conferences with media in Korea and Japan. He also spoke to Global TV live from the plant where the Canada Line trains are being built in Korea.

I am really pleased with the outcome of the mission. I want to thank the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, Transport Canada, the Vancouver Port Authority and Vancouver International Airport for their assistance in assembling our program and on the ground logistics support.

Minister Falcon and I also want to thank Lisa Gow and her team in the Pacific Gateway Branch who spent many



Minister Falcon and Prince Rupert Port Authority CEO Don Krusel atop one of three new gantry cranes coming to Prince Rupert. The massive, 25 story tall cranes arrive in Prince Rupert later this summer.

hours organizing the program, writing more than 50 briefing notes and backgrounders, and sweating every detail. Canadian Consular staff told us ours was the best organized mission of its type they had ever worked, something that was obvious to our entire delegation.



Minister Falcon and Deputy Minister John Dyble at the Port of Busan in Busan, South Korea.

Bike to Work Week in Victoria

Submitted by Dennis Chow, Financial Management

Bike to Work Week (BTWW) Victoria was a great success this year. Almost 60 MoT cyclists took part to promote the use of the bicycle as transportation to work.

Why cycle to work? Well, how about exercise, stress reduction and a sense of well-being? Add prizes, fun events and a supportive atmosphere and we have all the ingredients to a memorable week.



MoT Bike to Work Week Participants

As in previous BTWWs, our Minister played a big part. Minister Falcon announced the start of BTWW by riding down the steps of the Legislature (he safely did this twice as the TV crew didn't capture it properly the 1st time). Later in the week, Minister Falcon served refreshments at the Celebration Station located right here in the Library Courtyard where our team photo was taken.

A fun part of the BTWW is the Commuter Challenge where a friendly "race" between a cyclist and car takes place to see who has the better travelling time. This year, MoT ran three challenges with the cyclists winning two of them. A fourth challenge was cancelled due to illness but our sophisticated computer modelling predicted that Kyle would have won had the race been held (be mindful that our ministry really does have a lot of traffic and safety data). The only driver to win was Claire. However,

her victory is somewhat tainted as she has refused to participate in the steroid test. The anti-doping committee is investigating...

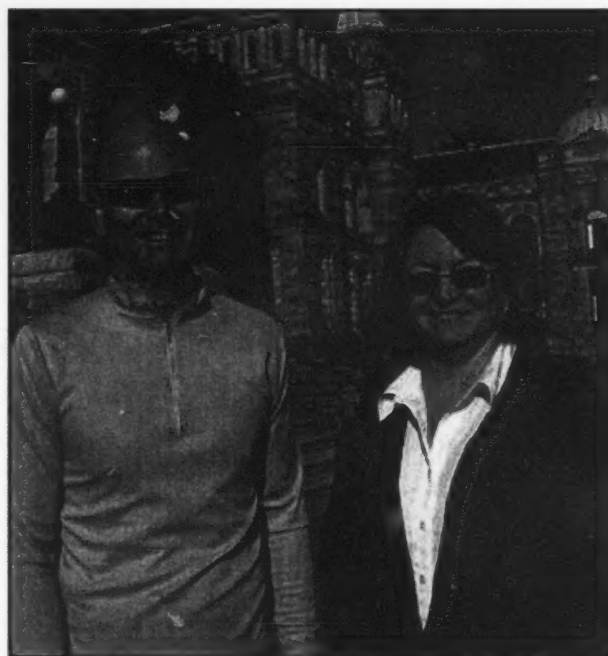
Commuter Challenge Participants

Noble Cyclists	Drivers	Start Location
Greg Gilks	Sheila Taylor	Broadmead
Patti Sandham	Elizabeth Horn	Interurban/ Wilkinson
Avi Ickovich	Claire Ingram	Langford/Colwood

Special thanks to the Climate Action Program for providing "green" prizes for our participants.

For more information about BTWW, please check out biketowork.ca.

We hope to have more cyclists (especially newbies) join us next year. Ride Safely!



Greg Gilks and Sheila Taylor

Road Check 2007: For Truck and Bus Safety and Security Throughout North America

Submitted by Perry Therrien, CVSE

The annual Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance (CVSA) International Road Check was held June 5-6-7, 2007 in BC at four locations, three Inspection stations near Hope and one at Pouce Coupe near Dawson Creek. CVSE Branch has been participating in the annual CVSA Road Check for a number of years. This road check was established not only to inspect trucks but to give an annual snapshot of the condition of vehicles, motorcoaches and drivers within the trucking industry throughout all over North America.

CVSE sent out invitations to various outside enforcement agencies to participate and work together to improve road safety in British Columbia. Trucking companies and associations are also always invited to attend. In addition to the 60 CVSE Inspectors, many of the lower mainland Municipal Police forces and the RCMP were present conducting inspections and monitoring drivers. Other agencies that were in attendance this year included; Industry Canada – Radio Communication Enforcement, Transport Canada – Transportation of Dangerous Goods, Small Business and Revenue and Canadian Food Inspection Agency – Animal Transport. The PECSF (Provincial Employees Community Service Fund) set up a hamburger/hot dog stand to raise money for our charities.

CVSE inspectors attending in the lower mainland were happy to see Minister Falcon attend and show his support. At the same time, he used the opportunity to release information to the media regarding concerns with designated inspection facilities and what CVSE Branch is doing about it. Over the last two months, staff has audited 47 facilities that we had concerns about. We've suspended 16 facilities pending a more thorough audit. We're also in the process of cancelling two facilities' ability to offer vehicle inspections

Although Minister Falcon was only able to stop at Hunter Creek Scale, he had the opportunity to meet most of the staff and it was nice have him there showing his support. He also managed to "grab a bite to eat" in support of PECSF.



Minister Falcon and Ken Usipiuk - ACOR Portable CTI Burnaby.



From left to right: Dario Rossi - CSI Fraser Valley, Minister Falcon, and Jim Macmillan - AVI Burnaby.



From left to right: Ben Taylor - Hunter Creek Scale supervisor, George Symons - Hunter Creek CTI, Minister Falcon, and Paul Picco - Hunter Creek CTI.

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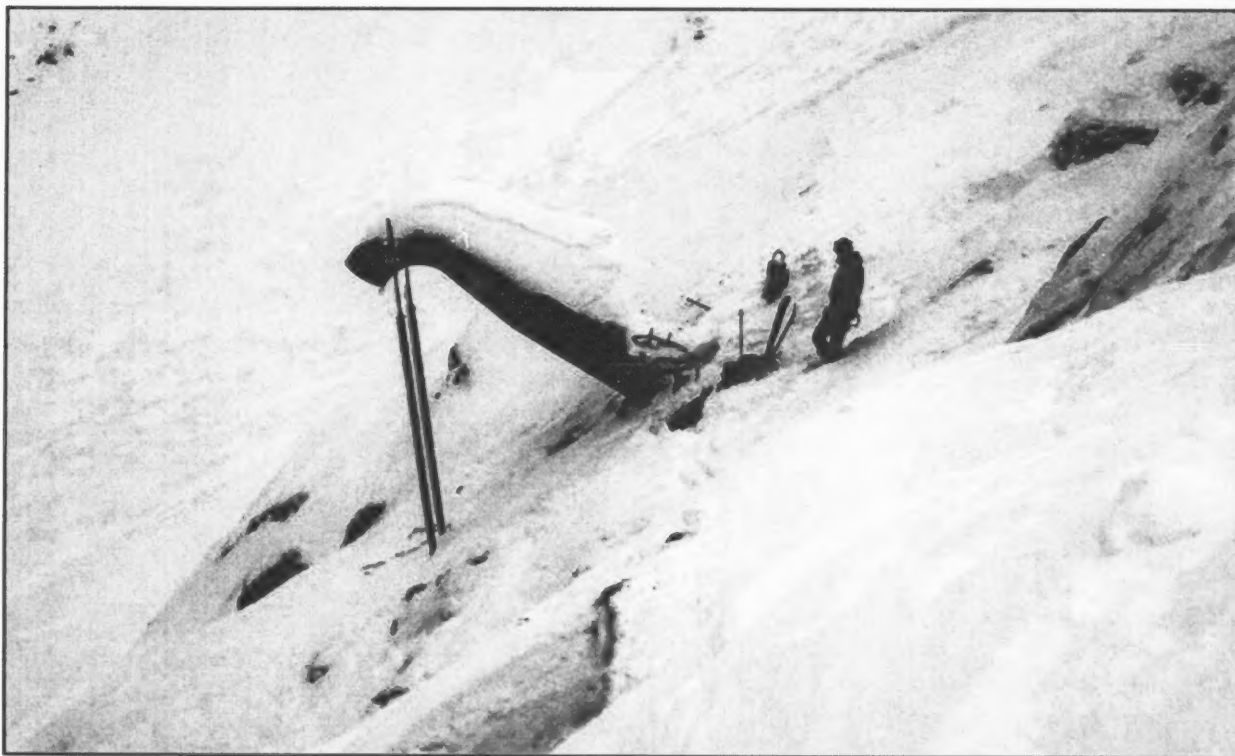
Road Check 2007 (continued)

CVSA Roadcheck is for a 72 continuous hour period, starting at 0000hrs Tuesday to 0000 hrs on Friday. The vehicles and buses that are stopped for inspection are chosen randomly with inspection times varying from approximately 20 minutes to 1 hour depending on the vehicle...sometimes depending on what is found it even takes a bit longer. The majority of inspections conducted were Level 1. This is a full mechanical inspection of the vehicle, from top to bottom front and rear. Unfortunately this year, the "Weather Gods" were not that good to us in Hope – rain, rain, rain but regardless of the weather the road check continued!

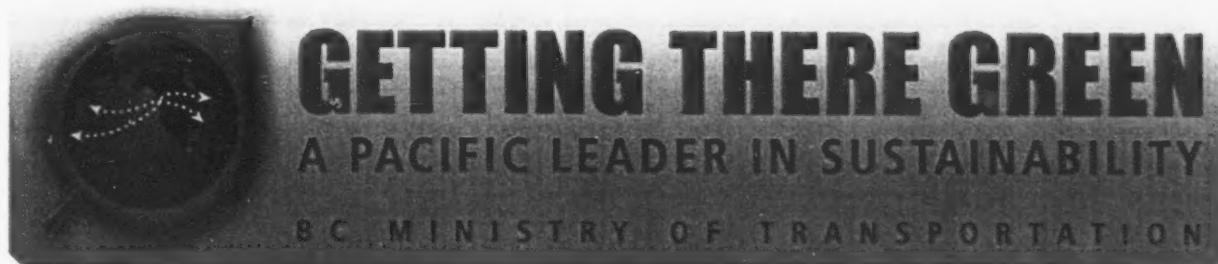
This year there was a total of 724 CVSA Level 1 Inspections completed, the majority of the vehicles were able to continue

on their way but the inspectors still put 156 Vehicles Out of Service (OOS) 21.5% and 53 Drivers (7.3%) OOS using the International CVSA OOS Criteria. Motorcoach inspections are also part of the event, 51 buses were inspected at two of the Hope sites with nine buses being placed OOS (17.6%) for various mechanical defects and two Drivers (3.9%) for documentation issues.

The success of this years road check lies in the hands of all of CVSE inspectors, whether they attended or not, the ability to work as a team together with outside enforcement agencies to create safer roads in BC is something we should all be proud of.



This is a photo of repairing an oxygen pipe on the Duffey Lake GAZ.EX avalanche control gas exploder. The slope was first stabilized by conventional explosives. The GAZ.EX system, the first in Canada allows avalanche control above Hwy #99 under all weather and daylight conditions. It is built in France. Photo submitted by Scott Aitken, Avalanche Technician, Coast-Chilcotin.



MoT's Climate Action Program

With the significant changes in the world environment noted by scientists and others, climate change has become a personal, corporate, industry and government challenge.

The February 13th Speech from the Throne outlined Government's commitment to reduce the weight of our footprint on the environment. It included the strong call to action: "Government will act now and act deliberately." This means reducing provincial greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 33% by 2020. To meet our goals, we will need to work across national and international borders to form partnerships and share technology.

A Climate Action Program team, reporting to Peter Milburn, Chief Operating Officer and being led by Steve Anderson, has been established to achieve a strategic coordinated and collaborative approach and to be accountable for MoT meeting its environmental goals and objectives.

The Climate Action Program mandate is to:

- Work with ministry staff, branches and business units to determine strategies, policies and actions;
- Implement projects, strategies and processes;
- Work with internal and external stakeholders to meet Government's reduction goals.

MoT already has a strong record of caring for the environment, but there is more we can do. Together, we can begin taking immediate and effective action and

positioning ourselves to continue these efforts beyond 2010. This calls for owning the problem; quantifying the impact; reducing emissions wherever possible; offsetting the remainder; communicating effectively and celebrating our successes.

Some of the initiatives for MoT include:

- Eco-friendly taxis
- Diesel trucks to be refitted with air filters
- Electrification of the ports
- Anti-Idling Campaign

For more information, check out the new employee 'Getting There Green' intranet launched on May 28th at: <http://tst.gwww.th.gov.bc.ca/CAP/CAP.aspx>



CAP Team from left to right: Brenda Jenke, Maggie Mao, Gail Scott, Jeremy Hewitt, Ed Miska, Steve Anderson, Levi Timmermans, Tom Crist, Jane Hawksworth, Linda Sayers, Tuan Bui, Aleshia Biggs. Missing: Stewart Turner and Mark Traverso.

Public Service Week & Climate Action Program Profile: Patti Sandham, Avalanche Systems Technician

Submitted by Elaine Ellinger

For Public Service Week, the Climate Action Program wanted to highlight a Ministry of Transportation employee who was already environmentally active at home and at work. When we spoke to Patti Sandham in the Construction and Maintenance Branch, she explained that a 'Bike-to-Work Week' e-mail got her out of her car and onto a bike to begin with.

Patti started biking during 'Bike-to-Work Week' four or five years ago and she hasn't looked back since except to check traffic. She bikes to work every day except in snow or ice when she rides with friends or on the bus. The surprising thing is that Patti used to park her car behind the Parliament Buildings and walk, which took 15 minutes but now it only takes 20 minutes for the whole trip (10 km one way). In terms of time management, Patti manages to get her exercise during her commute, which is no extra time at all.



Patti says the financial perks have also been plentiful. She saves money on fuel, car insurance (pleasure only), oil changes, parking and daily exercise without gym fees. She is delighted that the Federal Government has caught on and is now offering a tax rebate for public transit. There are other benefits too - such as the satisfaction of knowing she is doing her bit to keep the planet green.

We asked her why she is so committed and she responded, "The little things really add up - such as using one paper towel to dry my hands instead of three, replacing incandescent lights with compact fluorescent bulbs and recycling everything possible including paper, plastic, cardboard and bottles." Patti conserves water too by dumping her water bottle on a plant rather than down the drain; not leaving the tap running; taking short showers and washing her hands with cold water rather than waiting for it to get hot. Patti's total lifestyle embraces her 'conservationist' attitude.

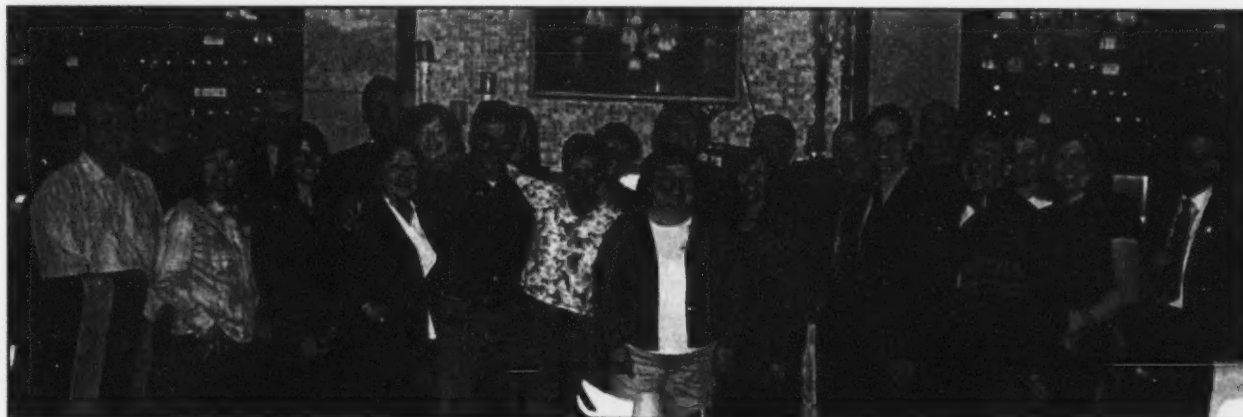
When asked if the gain is worth the pain Patti replies that the costs are few and the rewards many. "We have a compost. We don't use pesticides. We have planted flowering plants and shrubs to attract Hummingbirds and butterflies. We feed the birds; have a birdbath, ponds and a reticulated creek. Most of the plants and trees in the yard are native. I only water a very small percentage of our garden in the summer and use manure mulch. We do not bother to water our lawns. We just let it go brown. I NEVER water the pavement. That just bugs me to no end seeing people waste water like that."

For more ideas on how public servants (like Patti) can make a difference to the environment, check out the Climate Action Program's intranet site - "Getting There Green" at <http://gwww.th.gov.bc.ca/CAP/index.aspx>.

Check out the Public Service Community website at:
<https://gwww.gov.bc.ca>

Farewell Cindi!

A farewell lunch and reception was held for Cindi Trowbridge on April 27th in Victoria.



The Properties and Business Management Branch gang et al at Ric's Grill.



Hwy 37 North Snow Pack

Submitted by John Van Damme

CTI portable Ken MacKenzie got a shot of this snow pack in Meziadin, B.C. He said "this is how we check logging truck heights in the true north on Hwy 37 N".

New Staff in Thompson Nicola District



Ron Sharp, Sign Design Technician, Provincial Sign Program

Ministry Staff have made me very welcome, with a signed welcome card from all staff and Starbucks gift card on my desk the first morning. The staff are very professional and friendly at both the Provincial Sign Program and the Thompson/Nicola District, and have made my introduction to the Ministry a very welcome one.

Career Goals: To be active in the design field where the work I do has meaning/value in a healthy, productive work environment.

Education/Experience

- Completed first year of the Digital Art & Design Diploma Program at Thompson Rivers University.
- Parks Operations Supervisor – Planning, City of Kamloops.
- Forest Officer - Ministry of Forests, Kamloops District.
- Park Assistant - Parks Department, Greater Vancouver Regional District.

Hobbies/Interests: Family, Good old Rock & Roll, Travel/Driving, Architecture, Hockey (Is Luongo really a Canuck? Pinch me, eh!)

Favourite Highways: Hwy 3 – Hope to Nelson, Hwy 5a – Merritt to

Kamloops, and Hwy 97 – Kamloops to Osoyoos.



Tracy LeClair, District Development Technician - TELP

I have lived in Kamloops for 25 years and love it's aesthetic beauty. I actively participate in outdoor/recreational activities, which include: running, hiking, camping, swimming and softball. I also enjoy spending quality time with my family and friends.

I have a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Geography and just graduated with a Bachelor of Natural Resource Science Degree from Thompson Rivers University. I had the opportunity to work in many different fields during my education, which taught me a lot.

I am very excited to have this opportunity to work with the Ministry of Transportation and feel the combination of my education and work experience will be a great asset to this already flourishing organization.



Kim Kovacs, District Operations Assistant – TELP

I was born and raised in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, and just moved to Kamloops for this job.

Education: B.Sc. in Physical Geography – U of S Co-op program, Saskatoon. Co-op work terms include: Saskatchewan waste reduction council;

the U of S, Soil Science Dept; 1 year with Environment Canada – greenhouse gas research and 1 year with Duck's Unlimited after graduation, studying greenhouse gas emissions at restored wetlands across the prairies.

Interests: a lot of outdoor activity; camping, hiking, biking and running. I've played rugby for 14 years and play slow pitch. I'm learning to play golf and plan to take up snowboarding next winter. I have done some travel in Canada and Germany, and look forward to more travel now that I am finished university and am earning money!

Kelly Northcott, Area Manager, Clearwater



I grew up in Prince Rupert and graduated in 1993. I have also lived in Nanaimo, Smithers and Kamloops. I am married

and have a seven-year-old daughter, my pride and joy. I am a Forestry Technician, with a professional RFT designation. I have worked as a Forestry Technician and Project Manager in forestry for ten years before coming to MoT.

Personal interests: most outdoor activities including camping and fishing. I also enjoy playing golf, rugby and soccer. My favorite sport to watch is the NFL. I have enjoyed my new career at the MOT thus far and I hope that it will take me on a new and exciting journey.

Career Tip

Brought to you by the Employee Advisory Forum
Road to Opportunity Team: (Holly Adams,
Gurdeep Bhangu, Karen Brown, Jackie Chambers,
Sharon Cowden, Trent Folk, Malcolm Makayev)

Leadership Training

With the ever changing landscape of our Ministry regarding long range HR planning, our Ministry is looking more than ever before for leadership from within. With the unprecedented amount of employees retiring in the next five years, how does one seize the opportunity to advance themselves as succession unfolds? One of the key areas would be in Leadership Development. When going to the PSA Learning Services Web site one can search out the Leading the Way Program that is specific to Leadership Development. The site describes the training for management, and in some instances supervisors and the courses are mostly all booked. Please do not be discouraged, as this is really just a starting point for all you potential leaders.

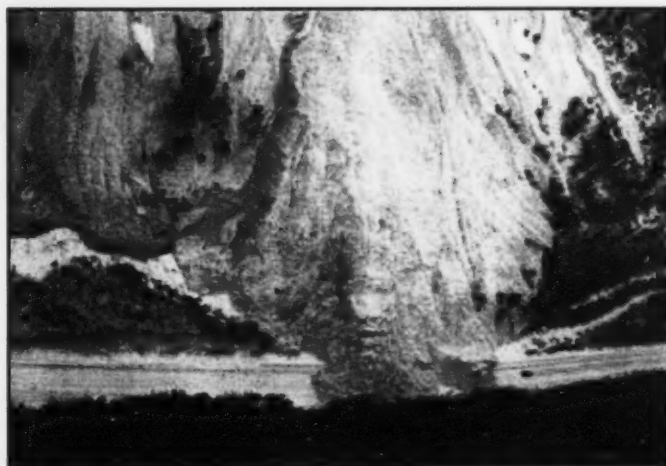
Remember it is also your responsibility to take the initiative, not just your supervisors. One of the most

important things a person can do to get started is to talk to your supervisor and ensure that your goals are clearly identified in your EPDP. Once signed off in agreement by your supervisor, then that now becomes your personal growth plan supported by MoT.

With this new tool in hand, there are ample opportunities for personal growth, in addition to PSA Learning Services. Universities and private training companies have a wide range of Leadership Development opportunities, ranging from one-day workshops, to long distance learning. A motivated person could achieve a Graduate Certificate or even a Degree. The address at P:\Transfer\EAF – Career Development, has a table with just a sample of what is available to the motivated employee with MoT's support behind them.

Scholarships for post-secondary training are also available through the Pacific Leaders initiative that was announced last month by the Premier. The program includes BC student loan forgiveness and scholarships to go back to school, and details about the program can be found at www.pacificleaders.gov.bc.ca. Get your applications in fast though as this program is sure to be a popular one!

Dare to Dream, the future is yours!



Avalanche!

Two spectacular photos of the controlled avalanche that occurred this winter on Highway 37A. Photos submitted by Fred Seychuk.



Alexandra Peak Culvert Replacement

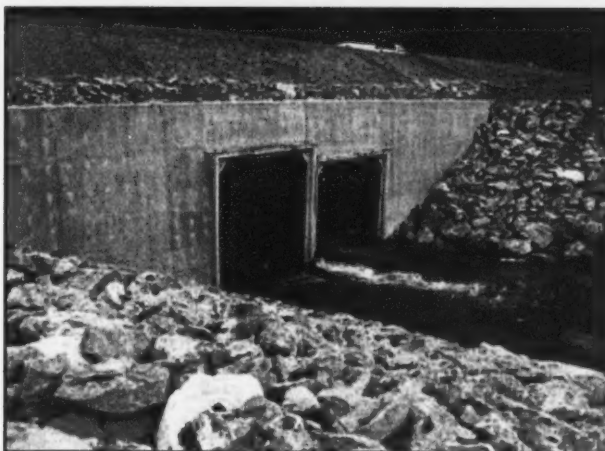
Submitted by Matt Choquette, Project Manager

These Vancouver Island twin culverts are located about an hour southwest of Campbell River on Western Mines Road. This roadway is somewhat unique to the ministry and runs through the Strathcona Park along Buttle Lake. It was constructed by Western Mines in 1954 to service their iron ore mining facility 30 km south of Alexandra Peak Mountain. It is assumed that the twin wooden box culverts were built at the same time.

The ministry became responsible for summer maintenance on this industrial road in 1973 because the public was using it for recreation purposes. The culverts were discovered in 1996 by the Bridge Area Manager, Rod Mochizuki, who named the crossing Alexandra Peak after the adjacent mountain which is the source of the creek. Rod recorded the culverts in the ministry's BMIS or Bridge Management & Information System.

The timber culverts were deteriorating and causing the pavement to break up due to settlement of the fill and subgrades. A design was generated by Highland Engineering and the \$1.2 million contract was awarded to Upland Excavating – both local businesses. The project was very successfully delivered under budget by Bridge Project Supervisor Scott MacDonald. Scott also supervised the building of a detour route that involved the installation and removal of temporary approaches and a bridge. The Ministry owned structure was loaned to Upland to use while the culverts were being replaced. Other improvements included some widening, the addition of guardrail and new pavement for the project limits.

The mine is still operating and is currently owned by North Vancouver Island Mines who produce and haul product to Campbell River for transfer to ships - the company continues to do all the winter snow removal on this road. The mining truck drivers are very happy with the roadway improvements and were sounding their horns as they traveled through the project during the final stages. Alexandra Peak Mountain is an impressive 6505 feet.



Employee Advisory Spring 2007 Meeting



Submitted by Mary Koyl

In early May, the Employee Advisory Forum's fifty members, representing business units throughout the Ministry, gathered for their annual meeting in Kelowna.

EAF Chair Grant Lachmuth welcomed new members, thanked past members and acknowledged continuing members for work achieved by the Forum thus far. Achievements include presentations to our Executive and all senior managers about workload management and their resulting commitment to explore opportunities for flexible work arrangements. Another major contribution acknowledged by Grant was the EAF members' hard work in aid of promoting the value of the Work Environment Survey, resulting in an exceptional response rate this year. (More EAF initiatives can be found

on the EAF website http://www.th.gov.bc.ca/EAF/MeetingAgendas_intra.asp.) Grant reminded all members of their responsibility to share the information obtained at the EAF meetings with everyone throughout our Ministry. Grant also presented Susan Ingram with a plaque from the EAF and BCStats, as everyone knows that Susan is the glue that keeps the EAF together and is responsible for our Ministry being in the lead when it comes to working constructively with the Workplace Environment Survey results across business units.

Forum members heard first hand about the changing dynamics of our workforce due to different generations. A panel discussion facilitated by Liz Gilliland of UVic's School of Public Administration openly discussed our multigenerational workforce. Four Ministry employees

representing four generations expressed their views on the workplace including hours of work; what they seek from their supervisor; and what they would like from colleagues.

A number of EAF members have been dealing with enquiries about the new government-wide Pacific Leader Program so the agenda also included a presentation on this

topic by Sharon Henwood from the BCPA (www.pacificleaders.gov.bc.ca). Dr. Graham Dickson, Director of the Centre for Health Leadership from Royal Roads, gave an excellent presentation on Leadership as Activity, Not Position.

Team Excel

Team Excel is a group of Ministry employees who are committed to promoting Employee Recognition and Leadership within the Ministry. All members are Leaders who are recognized for their contributions to the EAF. For more information on the EAF, visit the EAF website at www.th.gov.bc.ca/EAF/MeetingAgendas_intra.asp.

EAF Team Excel members include:

- Mary Winemore, BC Stats
- Paul Bryson, BC Stats
- Andrew De Rosa, BC Stats
- Katherine Egan, BC Stats
- Janet Hargrave, BC Stats
- Paul Hargrave, BC Stats
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Alexandra Peak Culvert Replacement

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Team Excel

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EAF Team Excel members are:

- **Lori Wiedeman, Chair**
- **Pat Taylor**
- **Mark DeVoss**
- **Annette Estay**
- **Jane Hawksworth**
- **Val Fabick**
- **Sandra Jackman**

Safety Tips: Know Your Bear Facts

Brought to you by the Employee Advisory Forum Road to Opportunity Team (Holly Adems, Gurdeep Bhangu, Karen Brown, Jackie Chambers, Sharon Cowden, Trent Folk, and Malcolm Makayev)

With the summer season approaching so are the travel plans of thousands of visitors from across the Province, Canada and many other countries, they come to B.C. to experience the fresh air, great outdoors and of course the many species of wildlife, including the Black and Grizzly bears.

Did you know that:

- Black bears can be found throughout the Province.
- Grizzly bears may be found everywhere except on Vancouver Island and the Queen Charlotte Islands.
- All bears are dangerous, especially habituated bears.
- Habituated bears have developed a taste for human food. They learn to associate people with food, and retain this connection for life.
- Bears are strong enough to mangle cars and shred tents in search of food.
- You can not outrun a bear. Grizzlies are capable of bursts of speed to 55 kilometres per hour.
- Bears can run downhill easily, have an acute sense of smell and hearing and great eyesight.
- Black bears and young grizzlies climb trees.
- Mature grizzlies are poor climbers, but have a reach of up to four metres.
- Bears are strong swimmers.

Close Encounters: What to do

If you see a bear, avoid it if you can. Give the bear every opportunity to avoid you. If you do encounter a bear at close distance, remain calm. Attacks are rare. Chances are, you are not in danger. Most bears are interested only in protecting food, cubs or their "personal space." Once the threat is removed, they will move on. Remember the following:

Identify Yourself: Let the bear know you are human. Talk to the bear in a normal voice. Wave your arms. Help the bear recognize you. If a bear cannot tell what you are, it may come closer or stand on its hind legs to get a better look or smell. A standing bear is usually curious, not threatening. You may try to back away slowly diagonally, but if the bear follows, stop and hold your ground.

Don't Run: You can't outrun a bear. They have been clocked at speeds up to 35 mph, and like dogs, they will chase fleeing animals. Bears often make bluff charges, sometimes to within 10 feet of their adversary, without making contact. Continue waving your arms and talking to the bear. If the bear gets too close, raise your voice and be more aggressive. Bang pots and pans. Use noisemakers. Never imitate bear sounds or make a high-pitched squeal.

Surrender: If a brown bear actually touches you, fall to the ground and play dead. Lie flat on your stomach, or curl up in a ball with your hands behind your neck. Typically a brown bear will break off its attack once it feels the threat has been eliminated. Remain motionless for as long as possible. If you move, a brown bear may return and renew its attack and you must again play dead. If you are attacked by a black bear, fight back vigorously.

In Summary

- Avoid surprising bears at close distance; look for signs of bears and make plenty of noise.
- Avoid crowding bears; respect their "personal space."
- Avoid attracting bears through improper handling of food or garbage.
- Plan ahead, stay calm, identify yourself, and don't run.

In most cases, bears are not a threat, but they do deserve your respect and attention. When traveling in bear country, keep alert and enjoy the opportunity to see these magnificent animals in their natural habitat.

Gone But Not Forgotten

It is with great sadness to pass along the news that Vernon (Joe) Bowlby



passed away peacefully in hospital Sunday May 6th, 2007. Joe leaves behind his wife Karen, and kids Shaina, Tracy and Alex.

Joe started with MOT on June 19th, 1972 as an Engineering Assistant based out of Nanaimo. Joe's major contributions included working on the Coquihalla and Vancouver Island Highway Project, and served in many areas of the province including Prince George, Victoria, Ladysmith, Duncan, Abbotsford and Kamloops. Joe enjoyed his work with the Ministry and Field Services, and loved the camaraderie of working together to get things done. Due to health concerns, Joe was unable to continue working in 2005. Joe's life outside of work included time with his family and he liked to fish, play ball and curl.

A small family service celebrating Joe's life was held at the family home Friday May 11th in Ladysmith.

Although you have left us Joe, you will never be forgotten...

Below are comments from those unable to attend Joe's service.

"Please give his family my condolences. Joe and so many of us played baseball

together for so many years. We were all together in Mica Creek and we were all together on the Coquihalla. If we were not playing baseball we were curling. We used to have huge baseball tournaments and all the crews from everywhere would get together. Thinking back on such great times we had and how much time we all spent together between all the crews was a lot of fun. Joe was an awesome baseball player."

"Many of us would like to have been there to celebrate his life."

"Joe was the kind of fellow who played his cards fairly close to his chest and was what I would say was a guy who was a thinker and tried his best, was very knowledgeable in both the field and office aspects of the job. He was a good man."

"Joe also enjoyed fishing from time to time. I always will get a laugh when I think about the time Joe told me the story of when he borrowed his neighbours small boat to go out in the salt chuck to do a little fishing, ran into some bad weather, flipped the boat, lost all his fishing gear and some of his neighbours stuff and got rescued by a passer by...I know he obviously was probably scared at the time but he sure chuckled about it later!"

"I would like to say that I considered Vern (Joe) Bowlby as a good friend and a well liked person. I worked with Joe for a considerable duration and he taught me a lot about road building, people and life in general. Joe was a good guy and will be missed!"

"I am very saddened to hear of Joe's passing. Joe was a kind and considerate man,

always willing to take the time to listen to others. Many times, we stood outside the office trailers in Abbotsford and discussed the "state of the nation" and which direction we figured the Ministry should be going."

"Joe was forward thinking, always had an opinion and loved the lighter side of everything in sharing a laugh. We will all miss Joe and I know my peace will come from remembering our talks and lighter times talking outside."

"Joe was a stand up man that always treated everyone with a fair hand... I liked Joe because he never treated me as a misfit, although I imagine that when I was younger I gave him lots of cause to treat me otherwise."

"He always had some advice for those of us that needed the direction, and like Phil Jupp, he was a great influence in my development as a Dad, Husband and Friend... all the things that I am most proud of in myself."

"It is with a heavy heart that I remember Joe, I wish his family wonderful memories and big smiles."

"I am proud to have known and worked with Joe and will always have a place in my heart for him."

"A number of years ago, Joe and another crew member rented the house beside ours while he was working in our district. Joe was a great neighbour and was very kind, especially to our children. He enjoyed the Cariboo fishing holes and we all missed him when he went on to other construction jobs."

Cops for Cancer: Tour de Valley – CVSE Style

Submitted by Cindy Hogg

Cops for Cancer Tour de Valley is a partnership between the Canadian Cancer Society and local law enforcement created to raise money for childhood cancer research. The event involves a team of law enforcement personnel cycling a 700 km route from Abbotsford to Boston Bar, back to Tsawwassen and finishing in White Rock. The Tour de Valley is a 10-day ride, leaving on September 20th and returning on September 29th visiting many communities along the way. Last year the Tour de Valley ride raised \$475,000 and this year's goal is to raise \$500,000.

This year CVSE is proud to have two Inspectors participating in this event, Ken Usipiuk, Air Care on the Road (ACOR) Inspector and Heather Lilburn, Commercial Transport Inspector (CTI) Flying Squad. Ken participated in the ride last year and raised a personal total of over \$16,000. This will be Heather's first year in the ride and by combining their efforts and our MoT support, they will hopefully surpass Ken's amount.

Both Ken and Heather are dedicated to their jobs promoting road safety, as well as this fantastic cause. They are volunteering their own time to train and participate in this event and taking valuable time away from their families in the support of others.

There will be fundraising events such as hot-dog and teddy bear sales, by donation, at various Inspection Stations in the Lower Mainland and raffle tickets to win a great



Heather Lilburn and Ken Usipiuk

prizes at the wind up of their ride. Donations can also be made on the website <http://www.kintera.org/faf/home/default.asp?event=228634&dis=1&kntae228634=C3825209DA72437783DE5A43E8571E54>

Please join me in supporting Ken and Heather and the Cops for Cancer Tour de Valley.

It is only with dedicated and special people that we can make our world a better place!

Innovations Move DriveBC Ahead



DriveBC

DriveBC
Weather

DriveBC has been making innovations galore! Over the last two months there has been province-wide training and software changes to move data input closer to the source, the launch of an interactive DriveBC weather map and the addition of weather information to webcams. These enhancements provide the public with the most current and reliable information available to plan their travels.

During the first two weeks of May, MoT staff and maintenance contractors received hands-on training to enter and manage planned events in DriveBC. Miriam Basic, Cam Gray, Rick Stangeland and Nancy McLeod delivered a total of 12 one-day sessions, in four locations.

Planned events are scheduled activities which may affect highway travel such as construction, line painting, mowing, paving, and special events like parades. Previously, planned event information was submitted by the districts and maintenance contractors who do the work, to Provincial Highways Conditions Centre (PHCC). PHCC then entered and managed the information until project completion.

Having MoT staff and maintenance contractors enter and manage planned events, puts greater local knowledge and control into the process. However, as some planned event milestones take place outside of office hours, PHCC will continue to provide 24-hour back-up for planned events.

Feedback on the training sessions was positive, and the trainers said they also found the experience enriching. They received valuable feedback on DriveBC from regional and district perspectives. Plus the trainers (based in Victoria in the Properties and Business Management Branch and the Information Management Branch) took the opportunity to visit MoT offices, meet new staff, and caught the buzz about flooding concerns in parts of the province.

Once the training was complete, the Information Management Branch finished DriveBC system upgrades that would allow for the new planned event entry by staff and contractors. On May 15, after a short planned outage to activate the changes, the system was smoothly running to the delight of Robin Windels, Terry Jarvie, Murray Baines, Lionel Cai, Miriam Basic and Rick Stangeland.

Then, just in time for the busy May long weekend, the interactive DriveBC weather map was released. The map provides drivers with current and forecast weather conditions organized by city, route and weather station. It also includes numerous webcams, providing current images of weather and road conditions throughout the province.

The addition of the weather map expands the weather picture for DriveBC users. It complements enhancements made in April, when weather information was added to the webcam pages, so everything could be viewed on one screen. Ministry Webmaster Gord Smith created these exceptionally attractive and user friendly weather sites, in collaboration with programmer analysts Ed Sabadash and Gavin McLeod. He also received input from Avalanche and Weather Systems Manager Ted Weick and Weather Services Specialist Simon Walker. Environment Canada is also a key participant in the map, with Fred Voglmaier setting up and providing many of the reports.

DriveBC is now the most popular website in government – averaging 20,000 visits every day. With all these improvements – locally input data and abundant weather information – the forecast for DriveBC looks bright and sunny!

For information on DriveBC, please contact Cameron Gray at 250-356-2705 or e-mail cameron.gray@gov.bc.ca.

Establishing Operational Alliances Within MoT

Submitted by Heather Lilburn and Cindy Hogg

A South Coast Regional meeting with the CVSE staff, MoT/CVSE Management including Dave Byng, ADM Highways Department, was held on May 8. The purpose of the meeting was to identify strategies which will help the CVSE business units feel more comfortable with their role within MoT.

The South Coast Region has developed a committee to "Establish Operational Alliances" between the traditional MoT operations and CVSE operations. The committee plans to identify common ground, enhance working relationships within MoT and take the 'arm's length' out of our relationships. Primary goals that have been established are identifying operational synergies, better operational blending, utilizing Peace Officer and Emergency Vehicle status in assisting MoT (i.e. road closures, flood concerns), improved working relationships between CVSE and MoT Area Managers and making MoT field operations more comfortable in requesting and utilizing CVSE assistance.

"CVSE has its own culture" quotes Dave Byng. As an enforcement group, CVSE staff often work alone and in isolation, making it difficult to establish intradepartmental working relationships and friendships. We have learned to rely on each other and forget as part of MoT, there are field operations all around us. The Area Manager, Roads/Bridges are also in the same situation, which also tends to be isolating.

In the last few months, since the tragic farm vehicle accident, media and government attention has emphasized the role CVSE plays in supporting the Ministry's vision. Building and expanding operational alliances based on individual and team skills will lead to better management of on-road safety programs and ultimately reflect well on the whole ministry. That's worth working toward!

The committee is available to assist anyone, formally or informally, wanting to learn or even experience more of the CVSE field. If interested please feel free to contact us:

- Heather Lilburn, Chair
Nordel Insp. Station, Surrey
604-209-8807

- Gary Li, Secretary
Nordel Insp. Station, Surrey
604-587-3300
- Steve Haywood, CVSE
District Manager, Burnaby
604-453-4201
- Cindy Hogg, Chilliwack
District
604-795-8217
- Carl Steele, Pacific Insp.
Station, Surrey
604-538-1121
- Don Harder, Laidlaw Insp.
Station, Hope
604-869-9330
- Cole Delisle, Carrier Safety,
Lower Mainland
604-575-3430
- Jim Symington, Squamish Sub
Office
604-898-5786
- Jay Northcott, Area Vehicle,
North Vancouver
604-453-4275

Recognition and understanding of the nature and importance of the ministry staff, as a whole, is something the ministry is working toward every day.



Photos of the Greater Victoria area submitted by Mandy Lo, Project Engineer E.I.T., Gateway Program.

Xaxli'p First Nation Site Tour

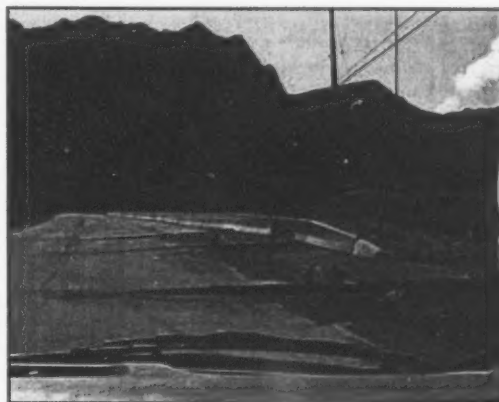
Submitted by Megan Kot

Motoring along parts of the highway through the Fraser Canyon is hair-raising in itself, but when driving by rock slides along the route, it's down right nerve wracking. Ministry representatives experienced this first hand upon accepting an invitation from the Xaxli'p First Nation (Xaxli'p means "brow of the hill") to tour the Six Mile slump and Ten Mile Slide area of Highway 99.

Xaxli'p First Nation (formerly known as the Fountain Band) is settled in a small community just north of Lillooet. For residents in the area, the sloughing taking place at the Ten Mile Slide area (located within the reserve)

is not new, and geotechnical work is required to study the area and assess its stability. After a luncheon at the Band office, Xaxli'p Chief and Council and advisor took Ministry staff to see the damage to Highway 99. Not only is there the possibility of losing a portion of road within the next few years, the slide has potential impacts on Xaxli'p cultural sites and fishing sites located near the slide area.

The Six Mile Slump, although smaller, also has safety issues and First Nation cultural interests that need to be addressed on a priority basis. Back at the Band office, Ministry Head-



Failing median

quarters staff worked with Xaxli'p representatives to accelerate discussion on the short and long term fixes required to address safety at the 10 Mile Slide and Six Mile Slump and to secure tenure to parts of Highway 99 through eight reserves.

"I am very pleased with the progress we have made in the last two meetings with Xaxli'p First Nation to address the safety issues for the community," says Nick May, Senior Manager, PBMB. "The situation is complicated, but I am confident we have established the groundwork for a positive working relationship to resolve these issues."

Chief Darrell Bob, Sr. agrees, "We are looking for short and long term solutions to the Ten Mile Slide and feel we have made good headway working with Nick, his advisors and Regional staff to address the issues."

For more information, contact Nick May, Senior Manager, PBMB, at (250) 356-8780.



Cracked pavement

Road Research Sleuths

Submitted by Nick May
Senior Manager, PBMB

Did you know that MoT has a small and very busy, independent Road Research Group, functioning since about 1995, and over the years produced a large volume of research reports? Used by legal counsels, treaty discussions, resolution of road issues, and executive briefings, road research reports are integral to the ministry's business and resolving issues in the New Relationship era with First Nations.

Road research is a niche market, and great researchers are very difficult to come by. One of the most highly regarded researchers in Canada, is Garth Stewart, Provincial Coordinator, First Nation Policy and Research. MoT is leader of five of the best in the province: Adrian Clark, Lynn Sanderson, Brian Young, and George Young (no relation). Garth applies his unique leadership abilities with many years of road research experience to effectively inspire and mentor the rest of his research team.

What sets apart these five from the rest? They all have the required skill that embodies the art and science of road research. The science begins with pursuing and compiling historical information, some as old as the 1800s, from numerous sources including provincial and national archives, federal and provincial records, headquarter, district and regional files. Historical documents take time to scrutinize, and much of the work can be tedious. For starters, researchers are patient, careful, accu-

rate, and methodical in their approach, leaving no stone unturned to find those obscure files used by the ministry.

Secondly, the group has superior comprehension, analytical, and writing ability. More than just compiling the facts, research is about uncovering history and mysterious events that must be narrated in an impartial way. The art is in how the facts are assembled. Sometimes it is difficult to interpret what really happened. It's hard if there is a break in the information. If there is a government-wide reorganization, it can be difficult to even find people who know where files are relocated.

Each researcher knows the history of roads in B.C. There are over 2000 Indian reserves, the majority having roads through them, which is very complex – legally. From a lawyer's perspective, a good report is accurate, comprehensive, containing everything needed to complete a legal analysis. If something is overlooked, it can be critical. Some documents are ambiguous, but a good researcher can alert the reader to the ambiguity.

It's not just a pattern of documents that tell the story; one letter or one sentence, for example, can color the whole circumstance and change the entire legal opinion. Road research has evolved from 1-2 page memos to narrative reports that are more detailed and professional. A fast-tracked preliminary report can take 3-4 weeks to complete. The longer reports take about 4-5 months.

Ministry researchers pride themselves on following their sleuthing orders:

the research must be totally objective – no opinions, no speculations – conclusions based on the evidence or lack of it. Let the evidence tell the story and whether it is favorable to the ministry or not, let the chips fall where they may. Following these orders to the letter has allowed the ministry to share its research with First Nations, who accept the impartiality of the work. Now that's progress!

As part of the evolution of road research, the Group institutes peer reviews, which they say has been invaluable, making a huge difference in the quality of their work. They are a tight set, thoughtful in their speech, careful about their opinions, yet open and curious – more essential qualities of top gun researchers. As they know each other, they share information on their sources. They help each other out.

Garth, Adrian, Lynn, Brian, and George can't say enough about the regional and district staff who are very cooperative in sending their files and maps, or whom they can phone to check out situations on the ground. Special thanks to the Information and Records Services staff: Deb Hoy for historical operational knowledge; Carol Magee for records management; and Shelley Keddy for information access. "It's interesting and challenging," says Deb Hoy, Manager, Information and Records Services, "It's like being a Sherlock Holmes in the information world."

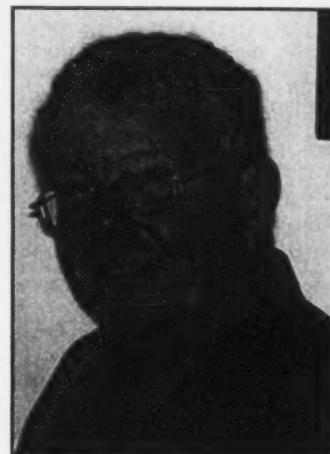
For more information, contact Nick May, Senior Manager, PBMB, (250) 356-8780.

Art French Retires After 35 Years of Service

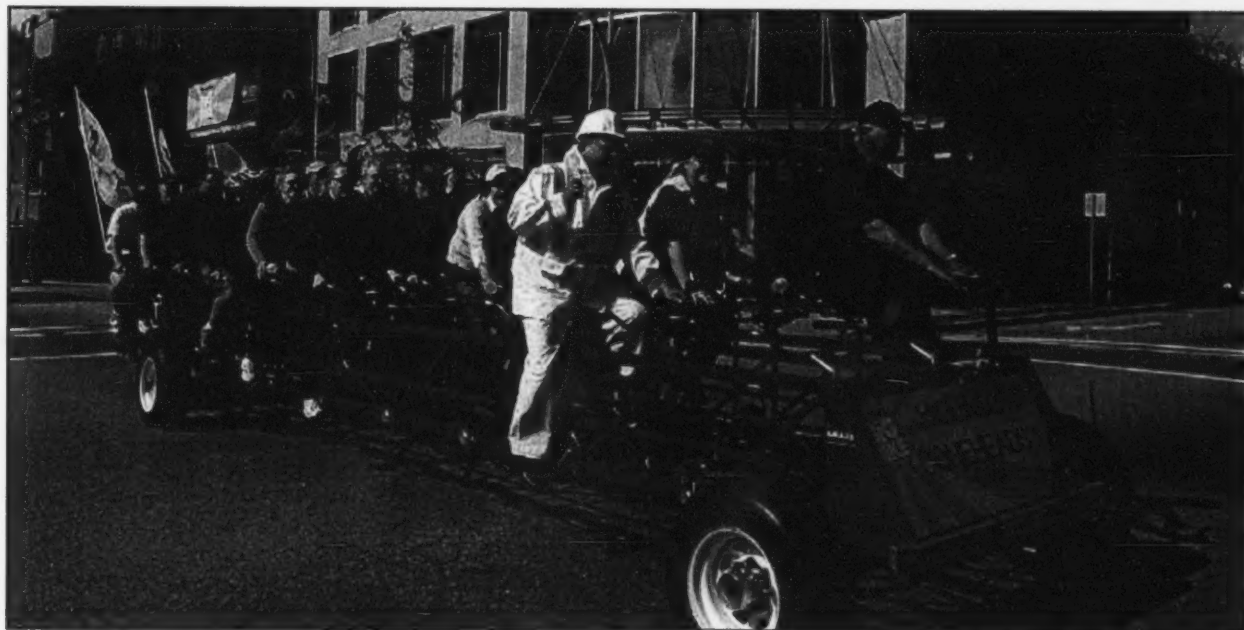
Art French has retired from the ministry as of April 30, 2007 after 35 years of service. An informal barbeque was held in his honour at the home of Project Management Director Frank Dacho, where staff and family gathered to thank Art for his diligence and expertise in his field as well as his humour over the years. He was presented with a 35-year pin and iceberg plaque along with a gift of fishing gear; his wife Lucille received flowers. Their two sons & daughter-in-law also attended the event. Everyone had a good time but were sad to see Art leaving - he was always there when someone needed help or technical advice; we'll miss his knowledge and dry sense of humour.

Art started with the ministry in 1972 in the Paving Branch. During his time as lab man with paving crews, he worked throughout the Southern Interior Region in many locales for short durations! He also spent 15 years as a paving lab assistant in the Kamloops Regional Paving Lab.

In 1990, Art won a competition for Project Management Technician in Kamloops where he completed his career assisting in the delivery of large Capital, Rehabilitation and P3 projects throughout Region 2. During his time with the ministry, Art has always been a dependable and dedicated employee. We will all miss him.



Art and Lucille plan to enjoy gardening, fishing and trips with their new found freedom.



A team from the Ministry of Transportation pedals the Heart and Stroke Foundation's Big Bike through the Sixth and Sixth intersection in Uptown New Westminster on Monday, May 7. The 30-foot long Big Bike accommodates 30 riders. Last year it raised more than \$5 million for the Heart and Stroke Foundation. Photo by Mario Bartel, Burnaby/New Westminster NewsLeader.

World Police Fire Games



**Submitted by Clem Vanderhorst
CVSE Inspector, Cranbrook**

The World Police Fire Games were held on March 16-25, 2007 in Adelaide Australia.

Darren Maywood from Kamloops and Clem Vanderhorst from Cranbrook represented the Ministry of Transportation, CVSE.

These games were attended by approximately 10,000 athletes from 16 different countries. Darren captured the bronze

medal in the wrestling competition. This was remarkable since he had received a severe leg injury during his opening bout.

Clem Vanderhorst entered in the Toughest Competitor Alive competition. This competition consisted of eight separate events during the course of one day. They were as follows: 5 km run, shot put, 100-meter dash, 100-meter swim, 20-foot rope climb hands only from a seated position, bench press, pull-ups and finishing with an obstacle course. In this event, Vanderhorst was awarded

a silver medal in his age group. On the last day of the games, Vanderhorst also entered the half marathon.

Some of the additional highlights of the trip included the friendliness of the people towards all the competitors. During the opening ceremony, the 200 Canadian athletes were brought into the stadium by RCMP officers mounted on horse-back, dressed in their red serge uniforms. Another highlight was the trading of pins and shirts between competitors.

Vanderhorst and his wife Irene also toured two nature reserves. There they saw koalas, kangaroos and dingoes all up close.

The next World Police Fire Games will be held in Burnaby, B.C. in 2009. I strongly recommend other CVSE athletes to participate. It will be an experience of a lifetime to meet and compete against your own peers from all different countries.



Highway Rollers

This year the Highway Rollers raised \$1,385.00 for the Big Brothers and Sisters of Kamloops. The team players are:

Front row: Maurice LeFrancois, Corinne Chartrand and Crystal Chenier. Middle row: Shawn Grant, Joe Amyott, Penny Radies and Deb Luison. Back row: Ed Wnuk and Tom Freeman. Missing: Ryan Oakley and Susan Ingram.

A big thank you to Susan Ingram for donating the Ministry hats and t-shirts from the Employee Advisory Forum. We looked great this year. Thanks to all who helped with the pledges.

Gateway Program: Pitt River Bridge and Mary Hill Interchange Project

Since the Gateway Program was launched in January 2006, the team has accomplished a lot in their efforts to move the Program forward. The three projects: Port Mann/Highway 1, South Fraser Perimeter Road and the North Fraser Perimeter Road which includes the Pitt River Bridge Project have all conducted the most extensive public consultation of any transportation project in Greater Vancouver with over 10,000 participants.

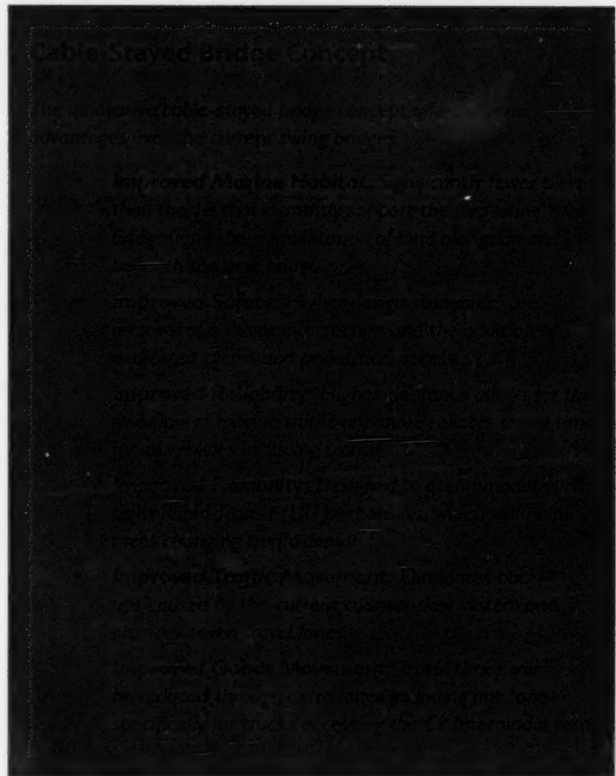
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Of the three projects, the Pitt River Bridge and Mary Hill Interchange Project (PRB) is the first step in meeting those objectives. On February 9, Premier Gordon Campbell, Transportation Minister Kevin Falcon, the federal Minister for International Trade and the Pacific Gateway, David Emerson and Port Moody-Westwood-Port Coquitlam MP James Moore announced a major milestone for this \$198 million project (\$90 million being supplied by the federal government) - awarding the contract to Peter Kiewit Sons Co.

This official ground ceremony at the bridge site was the culmination of months of hard work by the team from issuing a Request for Qualifications and a Request for Proposals, evaluation, and negotiating the final Design-Build contract with the preferred proponent.

According to Senior Manager for Procurement, Brian Stone, "the rest of the ministry gave us a lot of support and it was encouraging just how many people stepped up from all over the province to help out."

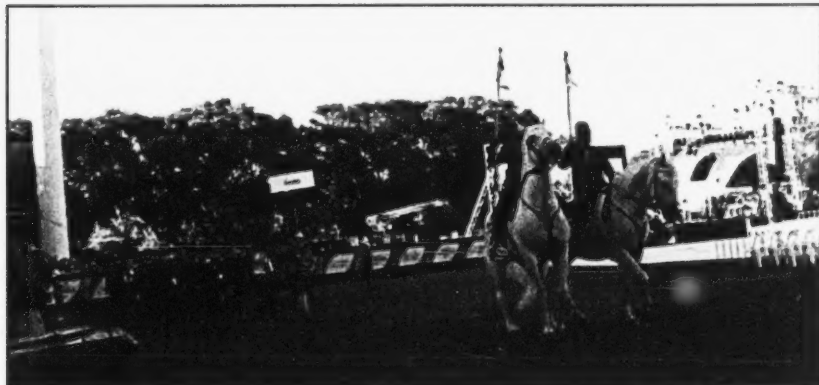
Bruce McAllister, Director of Project Operations and Procurement, is the resident expert on design-builds and procurement," explained Laurie Blackwell, Project Liaison, and "he was essential in evaluating the proposals. "



Ron Mathieson, Senior Bridge Design and Construction; Don Shaw, Regional Manager of Engineering for the Southern Interior; Dan Gould, Regional Manager of Engineering for the Southern Interior, and their teams put in hundreds of hours analyzing the technical details of

continued on page 26

World Police Fire Games



**Submitted by Clem Vanderhorst
CVSE Inspector, Cranbrook**

The World Police Fire Games were held on March 16-25, 2007 in Adelaide Australia.

Darren Maywood from Kamloops and Clem Vanderhorst from Cranbrook represented the Ministry of Transportation, CVSE.

These games were attended by approximately 10,000 athletes from 16 different countries. Darren captured the bronze

medal in the wrestling competition. This was remarkable since he had received a severe leg injury during his opening bout.

Clem Vanderhorst entered in the Toughest Competitor Alive competition. This competition consisted of eight separate events during the course of one day. They were as follows: 5 km run, shot put, 100-meter dash, 100-meter swim, 20-foot rope climb hands only from a seated position, bench press, pull-ups and finishing with an obstacle course. In this event, Vanderhorst was awarded

a silver medal in his age group. On the last day of the games, Vanderhorst also entered the half marathon.

Some of the additional highlights of the trip included the friendliness of the people towards all the competitors. During the opening ceremony, the 200 Canadian athletes were brought into the stadium by RCMP officers mounted on horse-back, dressed in their red serge uniforms. Another highlight was the trading of pins and shirts between competitors.

Vanderhorst and his wife Irene also toured two nature reserves. There they saw koalas, kangaroos and dingoes all up close.

The next World Police Fire Games will be held in Burnaby, B.C. in 2009. I strongly recommend other CVSE athletes to participate. It will be an experience of a lifetime to meet and compete against your own peers from all different countries.



Highway Rollers

This year the Highway Rollers raised \$1,385.00 for the Big Brothers and Sisters of Kamloops. The team players are:

Front row: Maurice LeFrancois, Corinne Chartrand and Crystal Chenier. Middle row: Shawn Grant, Joe Amyott, Penny Radies and Deb Luison. Back row: Ed Wnuk and Tom Freeman. Missing: Ryan Oakley and Susan Ingram.

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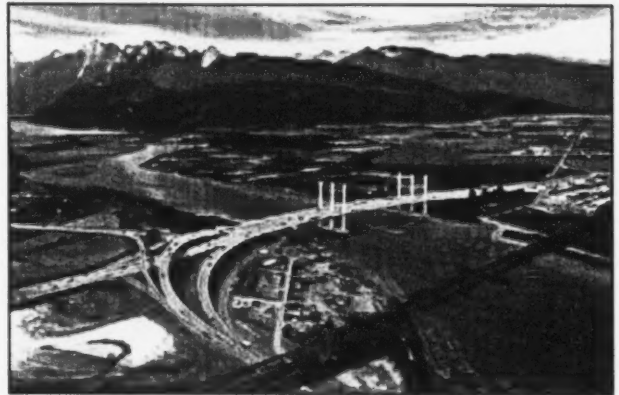
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Cable-Stayed Bridge Concept

The innovative cable-stayed bridge concept offers several advantages over the current swing bridges.

- **Improved Marine Habitat:** Significantly fewer piers than the 18 that currently support the two swing bridges and the rehabilitation of land alongside and beneath the new bridge
- **Improved Safety:** Higher design standards, the removal of a major intersection and the addition of dedicated cyclist and pedestrian access
- **Improved Reliability:** Higher clearance allows for the free-flow of marine traffic and more reliable travel time for all vehicles including transit
- **Improved Flexibility:** Designed to accommodate Light Rapid Transit (LRT) expansion, which will help meet changing traffic demand
- **Improved Traffic Movement:** Eliminates back-ups caused by the current counter-flow system and provides seven travel lanes
- **Improved Goods Movement:** Travel times will be reduced through extra lanes including one lane specifically for trucks accessing the CP Intermodal yard

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continued on page 26

Gateway Program (continued)



Bruce McAllister and Maria Ciarnello get organized to review submissions to the Request for Proposals.

the 3 proposals received, while Gregg Singer, Director of Technical Services, and his team reviewed the Project Management Plans. This was a huge undertaking involving thousands of pages of documents.

"The leadership of Brian Stone was indescribably important to the successful procurement process," explained Project Director Don Wharf.

The Project Manager for PRB, Joost Meyboom, also provided significant support as did Assistant Project Manager, Cherry Lindsey whose level of technical ability made her a huge asset to the team.

A high level of teamwork within the ministry and the project team was developed during the evaluation process partially through the effort of Laurie Blackwell who, under the mentorship of Maria Ciarnello, Senior Manager for Procurement, provided a huge boost of administrative support and acted as a liaison between the ministry and proponent teams.

Maria D'Archangelo Don Wharf and Bruce McAllister finalized the negotiations that led to the contract being awarded to Peter Kiewit Sons Co. "It took a lot of long hours and sacrifice, but the signing of this contract in February was an important step forward for this project

and for the team who made it happen," noted to John Dyble, Deputy Minister.

Under Don Wharf, the growing Pitt River Bridge team is made up of over 25 people today. "The team is a blend of consultants and ministry staff," explained Wharf, and "we have come together to work towards a common objective."

Construction is expected to start early this summer and Project Manager, Derek Weatherbee is playing a leading role in implementation.

Special thanks go out to everyone who worked so hard writing the RFQ and RFP, and evaluating the Responses and Proposals and is continues to push this project forward with that same commitment.



Accurate Surveyors!

Bob Hacking, A/Area Manager Hope, says the surveyors are definitely an accurate work group! This is a one-inch water-line in Boston Bar with a half-inch property pin, dead centre!

Submit your photos online at:
gww.th.gov.bc.ca/ImageGallery/home.aspx

Gateway Recruiters Celebrate Another Successful Campaign

As part of the Ministry of Transportation's succession plan, Gateway has recruited 25 new ministry people for TELP, EIT, and regular positions distributed across the Program. Since March, we have welcomed nearly 20 new faces:

- Debbie Chiu, Administrative Assistant, Program Services
- Michelle Moffat, Financial Officer, Program Services
- Anthony El-araj, EIT, SFPR
- Nick Wright, Community Relations Officer
- Jannea Ruffle, Administrative Property Assistant
- Donna Chandler, Administrative Assistant, SFPR
- Yaa Tettey, TELP, Project Management Tech., SFPR
- Margaret Lew, Reception/Document Control, PMH1
- David Fairhurst, TELP, Project Management, Pitt River Bridge
- Duane Neufeld, Assistant Project Manager, Pitt River Bridge
- Joanne Cyr, TELP, Assistant Environmental Coordinator
- Betty Tsao, Document Control, Pitt River Bridge
- Mandy Lo, EIT, Pitt River Bridge
- Dickson Chung, EIT, Technical
- Amber Smith, TELP, Environment
- Rebecca Huang, EIT, Technical
- Linda Takahashi, EIT, SFPR
- Anne Murphy, Financial Clerk, Program Services
- Dominko Komnenovic, Project Manager, PMH1

It has taken a huge commitment to bring these people in and help them get up to date with the Program. Terri Trevors (Public Service Agency), Teresa Switzer and Chantelle Gergley have played invaluable roles in recruiting such an excellent group. Also essential to this effort were Lori Wiedeman and Dirk Nyland.

Welcome to you all!



Photo of the Commercial Vehicle Safety and Alliance (CVSA) training course Spring 2007. Photo by Brian Kangas.

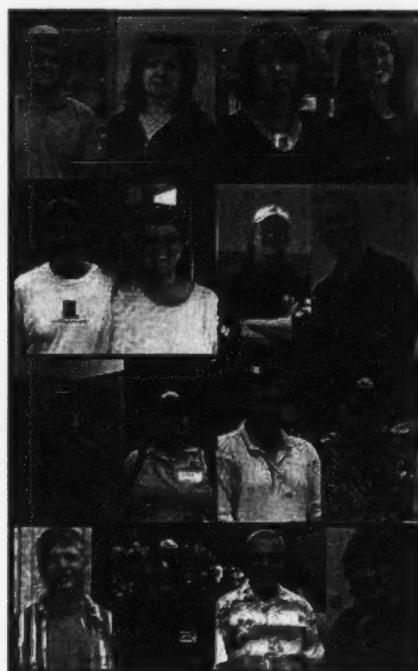
Canadian Cancer Society – Smithers Relay for Life 2007

On May 26th, 2007, the Smithers community Relay for Life took place. This year, the Bulkley-Stikine District staff entered a team (MoT-Ley Crew, of course). The relay began at 8:00 p.m., and continued through the night, until Sunday morning at 8:00 a.m. Thank goodness for access to coffee to stay up the night...thanks RK – you really didn't have any say in the matter!

Everyone from our office participated, by taking part of the relay itself, volunteering, or donating through the group. Some of us volunteered to shave their heads in support of the fight for all cancers fore every \$1,000 raised.

We wish to thank all those who contributed through our group. Your generosity was tremendous and very much appreciated. At the time of submission of this article, we had raised over \$2,500 and going higher...

'Til next Year!



A Delegation From Balmy Victoria to the Frozen North

Submitted by Richard Voyer

Jenny Pleice and Diane Marson representing the headquarters' corporate procurement office and Betty McCaw, Contract Administration Officer in Southern Interior Region, joined Bev Propp and Richard Voyer from Engineering Branch on two tours of ministry offices across the Province to talk about the exciting subjects of general and professional liability insurance, contract procedures for professional services and the RISP consultants' registry. The tours took place in the fall and early spring and covered ten cities on Vancouver Island, the Lower Mainland and the Interior of British Columbia. The talks consisted of a series of thirteen half day workshops attended by over 200 ministry staff and also consultants that provide engineering and environmental services to the Ministry. The workshops were a success, with Bev keeping spirits high with her constant jokes, and in spite of the hair-raising drive from Prince George to Fort St-John through a late March snow storm.



From left to right – Diane Marson, Bev Propp, Jenny Pleice and Richard Voyer on the airport tarmac in Prince George, March 20, 2007.

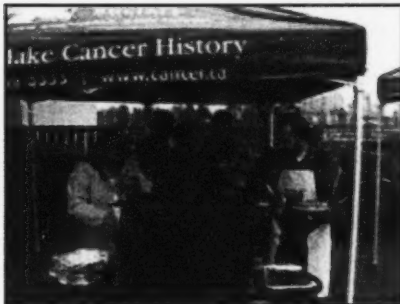
South Coast Region's End of Winter Storms and Recognition BBQ

Submitted by Karen Orrell
South Coast Regional Office

That time of year for outdoor fun and barbeques has finally arrived and the South Coast Region jumped on the band wagon with the "End of Winter Storms and Recognition BBQ". Food flowed from one end of the room to the other, graciously prepared by many MoT staff and organized by Linda Malo.

Fortunately our CVSE staff came to the rescue with tents for the BBQs as Mother Nature did not take pity on us and our hamburger flipping regional managers had to work under cover in the rain. Employees enjoyed themselves inside in the dry.

A highlight to the event was the presentation of a 40-year service pin by Tracy Cooper, Regional Director, to Howard Hunter, Provincial Approving Officer at Lower Mainland District office. Imagine, 40 YEARS! He must have been a babe in arms when he started. Howard's hard work and dedication has been much appreciated by all. Congratulations Howard!



Val Fabick, Pat Harkness and Patrick Livolsi



Howard Hunter (40th Anniversary) and Tracy Cooper



Staff enjoying the BBQ

The Hub of Everything We Do!

Submitted by Viki Vourlis

Tracy Cooper recognized Peter Fu, Manager of Systems Services for his incredible dedication to all of our IT Issues. Peter is a busy person who is inundated taking care of the South Coast Region and all of the IT issues that come with that. Peter is definitely one of the most important links at South Coast. Everyone here appreciates his hard work and dedication.

Thank you Peter! Good job!

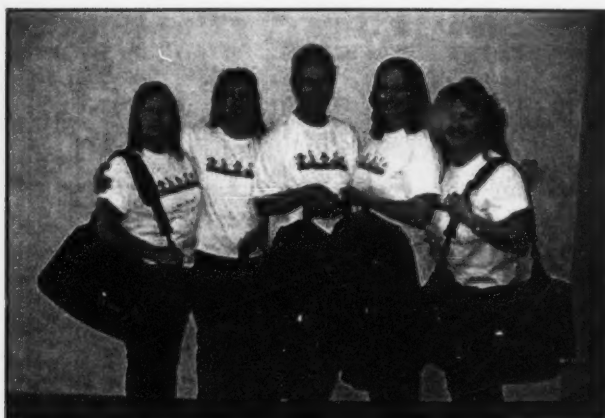


Transaction Sport Bags a Big Hit!



"Now that I have an alternate carrying devise for my 10-month-old son Brandon (kidding), I should explain how I received it. I am a Graphic Designer and work in the Provincial Sign Program that is based in Kamloops. My team in TransAction consists of four others that work with me in the Thompson Nicola district. They are; Joan Brickwood (Dev Apps), Elaine Shibata (Regional Administrative Assistant), Dave Nadin (Area Manager) and Kelly Northcott (Area Manager). We were all lucky enough to be awarded a random prize recently which was the super-cool sport bag. So naturally I run home and throw my infant son into it and drag him all over the house. He giggled his head off. I live for that stuff nowadays."

— Larry Macko



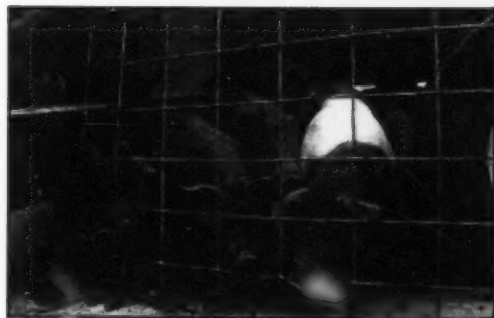
"This picture is of the PMSMVPs. From left to right: Susan Keldsen, Giesila Decker, Pat Thomas, Patti Dixon, and Jackie Chambers."

"We just wanted to give a huge THANKS for the awesome gym bags – what a great surprise! TransAction has definitely motivated us!"

— Jackie Chambers

Submit your photos online at:
www.th.gov.bc.ca/ImageGallery/home.aspx

You Never Know What You're Going to See...



"My supervisor, Doreen McAllister, and I did an inspection last year of a 5-ton truck pulling a flat deck trailer which held a tractor and 13 pigs, 9 lambs and 1 billy goat. The key word being flat deck. Here is a picture of one of the escapees and the little pigs." – Photos submitted by Grace Dean, CTI, Commercial Vehicle Safety and Enforcement

Project Continues Award-Winning Ways

BC's largest cantilever structure is humbly nestled into a curve along the Kicking Horse Canyon. In fact, it's easy to miss. The best way to catch a glimpse is when you're westbound on the Trans-Canada Highway to Golden: after you finish gaping at the impressive Park Bridge, look ahead and you'll see it gently extending out and over the Kicking Horse River.



This unique structure garnered a double win at the CONNIEs from the BC Ready-Mixed Concrete Association in the categories of Public Works and Special Applications: Technical Merit, and was also a finalist for Cast-In-Place Structures at the 2007 Awards for Excellence in Concrete Construction. Criteria included architectural merit, creativity, sustainability, complexity, functionality and innovative construction techniques.

"The cantilever is a prime example of the value to be gained from different teams and ideas coming together," said Murray Tekano, Senior Project Director of the Kicking Horse Canyon Project. "It saved about \$2 million in construction costs, improved safety with a straighter and more continuous alignment, and virtually eliminated any impact to the river."

The tendered design had included two bridges with westbound traffic traversing the Kicking Horse River. The contractor, Emil Anderson Construction, worked with Klohn Crippen Berger Ltd. to develop a value engineering redesign. Their proposal was based on a careful realignment of the highway and application of a unique cantilever structure that eliminated the need for the two bridges.

The cast-in-place concrete structure did not require support columns driven down into the bed of the river. Instead, a weighted and reinforced cantilever built into

the canyon wall supports a span extending out from the canyon wall and above the surface of the river. It was completed in 2006 under Phase 1 of the Kicking Horse Canyon Project.

The unique cantilever structure is a key example of the project's innovative nature. This was recognized when the Kicking Horse Canyon Project Team received the Premier's Award for Innovation for innovative engineering and environmental techniques and the new business practices that have made this technically challenging project possible.



Designed as a cast-in-place concrete structure, it features a 155 metre-long cantilever concrete deck reaching nearly 4.5 metres over the river below.



Counterweight balance across an exterior retaining wall was achieved using an interior concrete box structure containing compacted fill.

Staff Roundup

Who's Doing Something New?

The following staff have received new assignments between April 1st and June 30th, 2007:

Headquarters

After 30 years of service with the Ministry of Transportation, Harry Wan will be retiring in the Fall 2007.

Deborah Miller has assumed responsibility as Acting Chief Property Agent, in the Properties Branch, and will be shadowing Harry and his position until the Fall of 2007.

Kenna Bilek has assumed Deborah's position as Acting Manager of Land Survey and Tenure.

Dave Byng has joined the Executive Team as Assistant Deputy Minister, Highways Department on April 30th.

Anne Burns has also joined the ministry as Dave's new Executive Assistant.

Brenda Larkin has moved to her new position in the Chief Operating Office.

Steve Anderson is leading the Climate Action Program team as Executive Project Director, reporting directly to the Chief Operating Office.

Tuan Bui has the joined Ministry of Transportation as Senior Manager, Project Delivery, Climate Action Program.

Sandra Carroll is the acting Executive Director of the Properties and Business Management Branch.

Lucas Bremski, EIT, has joined the Radio and Electronics section of the Construction and Maintenance Branch.

Dorothy Cheeke is the successful candidate for the T/A as the Property Acquisition Administrator Clerk in PBMB.

Southern Interior Region

Susan Randle, E.I.T. is working with Geotechnical and Materials Engineering located in Nelson, B.C.

Brad Hogg is the successful candidate for the position of Assistant Gravel Manager in the Southern Interior Region.

Don Shaw is the successful candidate in the recent competition for the Regional Manager, Engineering.

Paul Riegert is the successful candidate for the position of the Paving Program Technician.

South Coast Region

Patrick Coates is entering the Ministry as a TELP in the Development Approvals and Operations section.



Tour Shows Wow Factor

Saucer eyes and dropped jaws sum up the reaction municipal government leaders had when the tour buses rounded the corner and Park Bridge came into view. The bridge spans over 400 metres and towers 90 metres above the existing Trans-Canada Highway – an impressive sight, and it's not even finished yet!

In April, the Town of Golden played host to the annual AKBLG (Association of Kootenay-Boundary Local Governments) Convention, promoting the Kicking Horse Canyon Project as a special attraction for delegates.

"We were happy to work with the Town of Golden and expose the project to people from neighbouring communities," noted senior project director Murray Tekano. "The whole region will benefit from the improvements to this vital trade and tourism link, particularly when you look at the role this corridor plays in connecting the Asia-Pacific gateway to the rest of Canada."

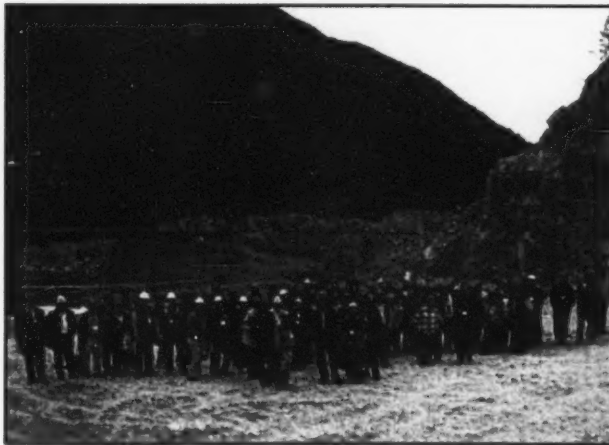
Seventy people took in a two-hour tour that covered the newly completed 4-lane sections of highway, rock catchment walls, Yoho Bridge and cantilever structure (Phase 1);

the active construction of Park Bridge, the rest area and brake check (Phase 2); and parts of the anticipated future work to include an interchange at Highway 95, 4-laning and tunneling (Phase 3).

Representatives from across south-eastern B.C. were particularly impressed with the tricky terrain, quantities of material, girder launching method at Park Bridge and the innovative and environmentally sensitive cantilever structure over the Kicking Horse River. Much interest was also expressed in the partnership aspects of the project – the private-public DBFO, cost-sharing arrangements with the federal government, and the nature of the project team itself.

Some of the feedback included "it's the best managed construction site I've ever seen", "the work out there is amazing", and "my favourite part of the tour was our guide, Art McClean"!

In addition to the tour, project staff were on hand during the convention to answer questions and provide additional information with a display, construction videos and hand-outs.



AKBLG delegates at the east abutment of Park Bridge.



The Kicking Horse Canyon Project had a strong presence at the convention of local governments in Golden.

www.th.gov.bc.ca/publications/roadrunners/index-roadrunners.htm

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Who Gives a Hoot?



Grant Lachmuth, District Manager Transportation for the Okanagan Shuswap District gives a hoot. He is currently on a temporary assignment with the Integrated Land Management Bureau (ILMB) in Kamloops. Grant hit the ground running as the A/Regional Executive Director and is learning what the ILMB is all about.

Along the way, it appears that Grant is championing a new cause - who knew? This owl seems to be quite content to pose for a photo with him. Just call him Grant "Grey Owl" Lachmuth from now on.

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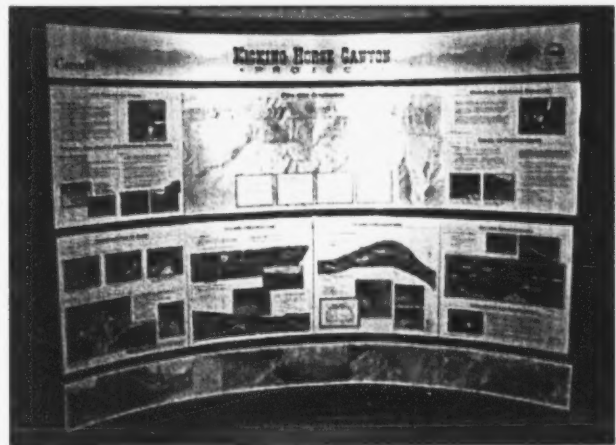
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Retirements

Lou Scheck

"Today is my last day with Ministry. After 35 years I believe it is time to move on. Over the past 35 years I have seen many changes and have met many good people in my travels. My whole career has been with the Geotechnical & Materials group in Region 3 and still think it is the best place to work. To those of you who I have crossed paths with, I say it's been a pleasure. To those of you who still must work, I say work lots as my pension indexing fund needs to be topped up. Take care and bon voyage."

— Lou Scheck

Eileen Carlson

"Today is my last day with Transportation after 37 years, tomorrow I start on a new assignment called retirement. I want to thank all the people I have met over the years both in person and online. I won't be sending out any more nasty reminders to the Regional and District offices asking them to clean up accounts — you were all so good at doing so."

I have really enjoyed my time and the assignments I worked on while with Transportation (and all the other names we were called over the years). After a short time in Ministry of Agriculture I can truly say I think Transportation is the best. I will certainly miss all my 'people contact.'

Goodbye best of luck to all of you in all you do."

— Eileen Carlson

Dennis Rejman



"The first picture is taking outside the house on my last day. The second picture is a picture of my wife and my hobby; we like to decorate our house for Christmas. Most of the decorations are made by us, some have been bought, but the majority are homemade. We have been making decorations since 1981 and have been adding to it, every year."

— Dennis Rejman



Thank You Mark & Mel!

"I am sure that everyone in the Ministry is away of the Chip Seal failure on Hwy 18. What may not be know is what an incredible job Mark DeVoss and Mel Kitson did in handling literally hundreds of claims. It is not very often that Headquarters folks get recognized by regional folks for outstanding service but HQ prides itself on service just like the Regions and District do. I was fortunate enough to be able to recognize Mark and Mel for their extraordinary dedication to service to both the region but more importantly all of those customers who were inconvenienced with broken windshields." — Tracy Cooper

2006 District Customer Satisfaction Award Presentations

Submitted by Kathleen Patterson, PBMB

This year, acting Southern Regional Manager Dave Duncan, acting Assistant Deputy Minister Kevin Richter and Business Management Branch Manager Christine Boehringer were in Cariboo to present the Ministry's 2006 Customer Satisfaction Survey awards.

Congratulations to Cariboo District staff as the recipients of this year's Highest Customer Satisfaction award for the Ministry's 2006 Customer Satisfaction Survey. Survey results found that 90% of Cariboo District customers said staff were courteous, helpful, treated them fairly and were knowledgeable.

The Ministry of Transportation's Chief Operating Officer Peter Milburn, Dave Duncan and Christine Boehringer (who was impersonating Vanna White) were in Rocky Mountain District to congratulate staff as the Most Improved District Award recipients for the 2006 Customer Satisfaction Survey. This group of dedicated staff worked hard over the year and achieved an 8% improvement over last year's results.



Cariboo District staff: Todd Hubner, Al Mitchell, Alan Kennedy, Brad Emslie, Brad Moores, Cam Williams, Cindy L Katchmar, Dan Keeler, Dan Palesch, Daniela Cantin, Denise Bollinger, Ed Marshall, George Foisy, Greg Sanderson, John Cook, Karen Jeff, Leanna linicki, Len Sauchuk, Loreen Russell, Margaret Henley, Michelle Schilling, Monica Ferguson, Nick Antifaeff, Ronald Johnson, Russ Roberts, Sharon Beck, Terry L Murphy, Trish Mazuch, Victor Johnson, Wes Wiebe, Dino Covaceuszach, and Gord Pickles.

Cariboo District gets bragging rights for the year on MoT's Stanley Cup of trophies, but watch out – other Districts are close behind and are working hard to take that away from you in 2007!

Cariboo and Rocky Mountain District staff gave a warm, friendly welcome and went the extra mile to ensure the lunches went smoothly. We would like to again offer our congratulations to all of you on a job well done!



Rocky Mountain District staff: Alex Crawford, Annette Estey, Art Caldwell, Arthur McClean, Arthur Mortimer, Blair Smith, Bonnie Greenwood, Brian Abear, Brian Austin, Brian Harris, Brooke Clasby, Bruce Allen, Carl Kastelan, Clem Vanderhorst, Damer Whittingham, Dan Cumming, Dean Young, Deborah Munroe, Deborah Wright, Deveta Roberts, Douglas Archibald, Ernie Krause, Glenn Olleck, Glenn Taylor, Gordon Chudleigh, Greg Paltinger, Greg Ringham, Irene Makkreel, J Wilson, Jack Bennetto, James Stacey, Janine Muri, Jason Odland, Jeremy Zandbergen, Joanne Sutton, Kareen Peters, Karen Brown, Katerina Halik, Kelly Beriault, Kelly Hughston-Bulmer, Kimberly Ross, Leslie Elder, Marilyn Marshall, Marvin Jones, Maurice Barry, Melanie Berg, Merlyn Goy, Robert Hemming, Robert Richardson, Sandra Griffiths, Stefan Yancey, Stephanie Daniels, Steve Desjardin, Tallon Smith, Wallace Smith, and Wayne Phelps.

Share your MoT Photos!

Submit your photos online at:
www.th.gov.bc.ca/ImageGallery/home.aspx

Congratulations to the Finance and Administration Branch of Transportation Planning & Policy Staff

Submitted by Suzanne Fitzpatrick
Border Infrastructure Program

How did five female co-workers achieve the highest customer satisfaction survey results in the ministry? The Finance and Administration Branch with Transportation Planning & Policy are this year's winner of the newest award recognizing the efforts of headquarters branch staff.

This dynamic quintet made up of Sheena Dorrell, Heather Weir, Sandra Jackman, Sandra Campbell and Shawne Kirk were voted to be the most courteous, most helpful and accessible! They were also rated highly for treating their customers honestly, fairly and for going the extra mile. These ladies scored a record-breaking 4.65 out of 5.00! This was the highest Customer Service Index Score and was a 7% improvement from the previous year! Overall other ministry customer satisfaction index performance measurement was 4.10, an increase of 2% from last year's result. The Customer Satisfaction Survey initiative plays a key role in how we obtain the Customer Service Index (CSI) measurement which ties into the ministry service plan and in developing branch service standards. Kathleen Patterson of Properties & Business Management, along with our DM, John Dyble

and our ADM Kathie Miller were there to recognize the group and to present them with their awards.

The Team attest their success to:

- A willingness to help department staff (with a smile)
- Dedicated to support one another with trust and respect
- Ready to step in to the other's role if necessary
- A strong follow-up system in place to ensure the information provided was what clients required
- A wealth of knowledge mixed with strong work ethics and confidence in the services they provide, be it records management, contract management, admin & HR supervision and financial & CPS support
- Enthusiasm to share and learn from their experiences and a desire to serve their clients well, always demanding high standards of themselves
- They believe (with regard to both the branch and organization's objectives) the team members think and behave alike. Consequently, as compared to other branches, they spend more time together, share information more frequently are satisfied with one another and provide social support as well
- Additionally, they have faith in the encouraging leadership of Tina Strachan, the Senior Manager of Finance & Admin

Their easy-going and cooperative natures make a positive difference in achieving high standard results. The Branch demonstrates a definite cohesiveness, an important characteristic of any work team. "It's the glue that holds our group together and ensures that we fulfill our obligations."

Thank-you ladies from all of us at MoT!



Ministry In-House Provincial Bridge Conference 2007

Submitted by **Bill Glen**

The city of Kelowna was the setting for this year's Ministry Bridge Conference. The event was held April 16th, 17th and 18th, and by all accounts, everyone enjoyed the venue and the event was a great success!

Attendees this year included District Area Managers Bridges, Bridge Engineers and Technicians from the Regional Bridge Sections, Bridge EITs, Bridge project supervisors, Headquarters bridge staff, as well as participation from District Transportation Managers and Ops Managers.

This year also saw a number of new faces in the crowd as well.

- Mike Feduk, P.Eng. – Senior Hydrotechnical Engineer, Victoria
- Peter Friesen – Acting Bridge Area Manager, Dawson Creek
- Anne Hazelwood – Bridge Area Manager, Lower Mainland District
- Marvin Jones - Acting Bridge Area Manager, Cranbrook
- Hans Lehrke - Bridge Area Manager, Nanaimo
- Carl Lutz - Bridge Area Manager, Lower Mainland District
- Brian Taylor – Bridge Technician, Prince George

With the advent of some of our veterans planning retirement in the near fu-

ture and with workload issues being in the forefront, there is a definite commitment to fill positions and prepare for the Ministry's present and future needs. The addition of these new folks to our ranks is sure to bring some new energy and ideas and at the same time provide opportunity for them to learn from the wealth of knowledge we have within our ranks.

The event covered three busy days that included a multi-site joint bridge inspection by the bridge area managers, and a very interesting tour and overview of the new William R Bennett Bridge.

Our "class" time included numerous, very informative presentations on topics such as Bridge Information GIS (BIG) Mapping, Bridge Management Information System (BMIS), safety, work load issues, P3 bridge projects, bridge design issues, bridge construction issues and succession management to name a few. In addition, some lively and informative exchanges ensued when all groups congealed in a joint session for presentations and discussions. Topics like "responsibility for project data transfer" definitely kept things moving! Who said engineers were boring!

To inject a touch of philosophical content into the formula, it can be said that the value of these events should not be understated. The benefits go well beyond the contents of the daily agenda. The pace of change is definitely accelerating and if we do not continue

to meet to exchange ideas and information, we stand to be less than well equipped to do our jobs.

A generous thank you to the presenters and to Kevin Baskin, Gary Farneden, Ron Domanko and the other organizers for putting it all together!



Kevin Baskin acknowledging the contribution of Pat Preston (soon to be retiring).



Bridge Inspection Training



Bridge Deck Chain Drag Training

continued on page 38

Provincial Bridge Conference (continued)



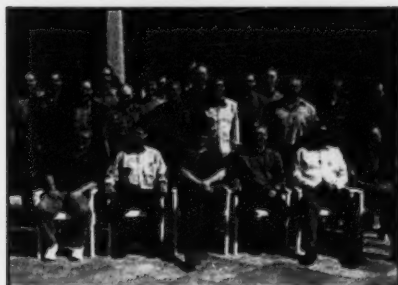
**Existing Okanagan Lake Bridge
Machine Room Tour**



**Floating Pontoon for W.R. Bennett
Bridge at Graving Dock Site**



**Bridge Inspection Group at W.R.
Bennett Bridge Site**



Bridge Design and Construction Group



**Kevin Baskin at W.R. Bennett Bridge
Site**

Check out the
EAF website for
regular updates:

[http://gwww.th.gov.bc.ca/
eaf/home_intra.asp](http://gwww.th.gov.bc.ca/eaf/home_intra.asp)

Sharing Information About Structures With Our External Partners

Submitted by **Brian Barker &
Ivana Mazuch**

Under the terms of the Concession Agreements, our Concessionaires are required to provide the ministry with information about changes in the inventory and the condition of the structures within their Concession areas.

The Bridge Management Information System (BMIS) was recently enhanced to enable Concessionaires to enter such information directly into BMIS, and to retrieve stored information from BMIS. Concessionaires

now have capabilities similar to Ministry Bridge Area Managers, for the infrastructure within their concession areas.

Providing Concessionaires with direct access to BMIS eliminates double handling, and ensures that the data integrity checks that are programmed into BMIS are used by our concessionaires.

This initiative is aligned with the MoT Strategic Plan to encourage the sharing of information with our business partners. It serves as a model for the



release of other IT systems to external business partners and for Consultants working on specific MoT structures.

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Sharing Information (continued)

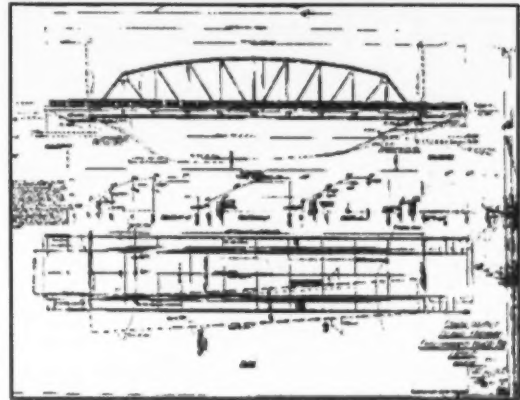
BIRDIE – our tablet based Bridge Inspection Remote Data Entry application is also available to Concessionaires. This tool allows users to collect condition information electronically while in the field; and upload that data into BMIS; avoiding the need for paper forms.

Our Concessionaires and Maintenance Contractors now have self serve – free – 24/7 access to the information within BMIS and its new mapping interface (BIG) via the internet.

Maintenance Contractors were provided access to, and training for BMIS and some have been successfully using it for more than a year.

BMIS was also recently enhanced with a link to our Bridge Information GIS mapping tool (BIG). It also provides an interface to bridge drawings, photos and videos. While the locational information is still being improved; this mapping tool can be used to find, and produce maps showing the location of structures meeting a variety of selection criteria. If you note errors in this mapping, or missing structures; please be sure to let your local bridge area manager know, such that the information can be improved for all users.

Ministry users can access the BIG mapping application via the internet at: <https://apps.th.gov.bc.ca/big/> using their IDIR account. Try it, you may like it!



West Kootenay District vs. the Vortices

Submitted by Erin Moxon, District Programming Engineer

It appears there are three forces to be contended with in the West Kootenay District this spring. The first vortex is the Gateway Project, who before our eyes, whisked Duane Neufeld away to grand new heights as a Project Manager for the Pitt River Bridge and Mary Hill Interchange Project. Though he will be missed by the District, it is an exciting opportunity for him and we wish him the very best of luck! The second evil force is TransAction. We have several teams vying

for leaner limbs and meaner muscles, however it appears to be causing problems with our youngest team. 'Young Guns II - The Sequel' is a front runner in the province, however the intense physical exertion has resulted in frequent pleas for short "lights-out" nap time breaks. Sweet dreams to Nam Nguyen, Susan Randle, Rajeeta Bains, Mark Scott and Jesse Morwood. And the last, but not the least evil, is the Brazilian brain bug that caught Jacques Dupas off his guard during his travels to South America. Jacques is doing well, recovering at home in Nelson while gardening up a storm. The Nelson office misses him and wishes him a speedy recovery! Lest I forget, Susan Randle, one of our two trusty EITs, is off to Geotech. She will remain in the Nelson office working with the Regional geotech staff. Mother Nature will be sure to provide Susan with lots of work this coming spring!

Bike This!

Submitted by Beverly van Druten-Blais

Wednesday, June 6th, 2007 a bunch of screaming, hooting, clapping, whistling, singing Ministry of Transportation Headquarters employees and kin decked out in matching T-Shirts and ball caps, reflective safety vests and some hard hats; and rode through the downtown streets of Victoria making a general ruckus with guns a-blazin' (squirt guns).

To prepare for the ride we demonstrated our awesome frisbee tossing skills, recited the symptoms of heart attack and stroke victims and did some rigorous vocal training. Then we grabbed our noisemakers and squirt guns and climbed aboard this colossal hunk of metal girders, chains, hard seats and really big tires, and set off to cause wetness and mayhem.

This was all an effort by these big-hearted folks and their generous sponsors to raise money for the Heart and Stroke Founda-

tion. For a first time team we apparently did very well in our fundraising efforts. We raised just over \$2,860 dollars for heart and stroke research. A total well above the Victoria area average!

After entertaining and perhaps even annoying the locals and tourists on the route, we headed off to a local watering hole for snacks and refreshments and to expound upon the great amount of fun it is being Highwaymen!

Many many thanks to our fearless leader and team captain the "Marvelous Monique Meek", the driving force in getting us all stirred up and organized. Next year will raise more money, have warmer weather, squirt more tourists, and yell and sing louder for the cause. Come aboard!



You Never Know What You're Going to See...



Submitted by Mark Scott

Picture taken by one of our avalanche guys working on the Kootenay Pass between Creston and Salmo. Apparently the truck was 2-wheel drive and did not have enough traction on its own, luckily it was hauling a team of sled dogs! Only in the Kootenays...

Newbies in the Peace

The Peace District would like to welcome Lynn Norman and Jesse Berube to the Development Approvals staff.



Lynn transferred to the Ministry of Transportation in April, 2007 from FrontCounter BC and Integrated Land Management Bureau. Her previous work experience includes ILMB, the BC Assessment Authority and the Road Maintenance Company in Dawson Creek. She was born and raised in the Peace Area. Her family life centers on her husband, four children and three step-children. She enjoys camping, boating, quilting, and wallyball.

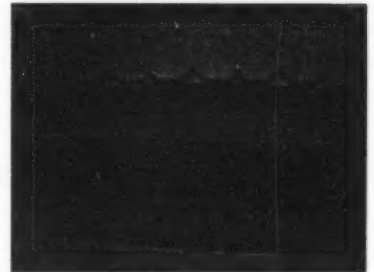


Jesse began with the Ministry of Transportation just recently (May 7th, 2007) through the TELP program. Prior to this, he attended Thompson Rivers University in his hometown of Kamloops, and graduated with a BA in Geography in the spring of 2006. He worked for Purolator Courier for nearly 7 years during that time. His interests include just about everything under the sun; namely travelling, hiking, camping, DJing, and hockey. Relocating to the North is sure to keep him busy with all its outdoor recreation possibilities.

Great Job Eric!

Submitted by Darhl Paley, Fort George CVSE District Manager

Every so often, the question is asked, "How do you measure what we do within CVSE?" It is really hard to measure the incidents and accidents that we eliminate as we do our CVSA inspections, taking many "accidents in waiting" off the road. As an inspector myself, it seems about every 15 inspections I did, one really good one would come along. This was the inspection that made you feel good about your job and gave you a real sense of "purpose" for doing what you do. One of these major "good ones" was spotted by the expert eye of Inspector Eric Ruotsalainen, from the Tete Jaune Inspection station. While on duty, Eric noticed a set of dual tires that were about to explode off of the vehicle. You may recall it was a set of dual tires that came off a truck in Ontario a few years back, resulting in several people losing their lives. This set of duals that Eric noticed were being held on by only one lug nut. Please have a look at the photos and notice the space that existed between the two tires. This definitely was a very high risk accident waiting to happen. It may be hard to measure how effective we are as CVSA inspectors, but catching "future incidents" like this definitely gives us a great sense of purpose. Great Job Eric!



Spring in the Kootenays. Photos submitted by Leslie Elder, Rocky Mountain District Office.

Following in Dad's Footsteps: The Story of Four Generations of Boydens in Highways

Submitted by Janelle Yardley, EIT

A retiring man was once quoted saying, "It is time I stepped aside for a less experienced and less able man." In the case of the Boyden family, this holds no truth...

Brad Boyden became the **FOURTH** generation Boyden to work for this ministry when hired on this spring into the Technical Entry Level Program (TELP) as the District Technician in Smithers. While Brad is just starting out his career here, his father, Harold Boyden, District Technician in Nanaimo, is on the other end of the spectrum, getting ready to move on this summer and enjoy the more important things life has to offer... like hunting, fishing and hockey!



Harry in his younger years

Harry started with the ministry back in 1973, as a young, spry summer student in the paving branch. After a few years, he went over to try out Forestry, though, it wasn't too long before he returned to Highways to work on the VI Regional Design team in the 80s. The early 90s brought him to the District and into the position he holds today. Having over 15 years of experience as the Ops Tech, Harry certainly leaves some large shoes to fill!

It was Harry's dad, Charlie, who suggested Harry join the ministry and make



Charlie at his retirement in Yorktown

use of his engineering education. Charlie had worked his way up the ranks of the ministry, from greasing on a shovel, to shovel operator, to grader operator, and eventually to construction foreman, the position he held when he retired in 1983. Prior to Charlie's retirement, father and son duo were fortunate to have the opportunity to work together on a project on the Trans Canada Highway near Chemainus.



Harold Sr. above operating his new shovel with Charlie front right and Joe Chaster front left.

And, with no surprise here, it was Charlie's father, Harold Sr., who had encouraged his son Charlie to join the ministry. Harold Sr. started his working life brewing beer in Merritt but decided that wasn't for him, so he joined the ministry. He spent some time as a foreman in Cloverdale but disliked giving

orders, so went back to his true calling as a shovel operator. He was so skilled at his job that he was able to convince the ministry that, prior to him agreeing to work on a job, they had to buy him a new shovel...and they did, in 1947. Harold Sr. was 19 days short of a full pension when he retired from the ministry in 1957.

I've had the chance to talk to a number of folks who worked with Harry over the years, all of whom say the ministry is really losing a great employee – his knowledge, intensity and passion for his work is matched by few others. Having worked with him in the District, I've learned never to judge a book by its cover. Although Harry seems pretty intimidating from the exterior, he is a great guy – one who has left a lasting impression on all those fortunate to work with him.

In closing – to Brad: Welcome to MoT! Clearly you were always a public servant at heart! May the Boyden family tradition continue on with you! And to Harry: Best wishes for all retirement has to offer, and remember, "A bad day of fishing is always better than a good day of work."



Left: Harry preparing for retirement mode. Right: Brad supporting his Dad and Grandfather during the 1982 BCGEU strike.

Did You Know?

The Road Runner began its first issue on November 1963 with a foreword by the transportation minister at the time, P.A. Gagliardi. Over the years, it has accumulated interesting facts and photographs about our ministry.

The Road Runner now has its own email address for submitting articles and photos. Send your material to RoadRunner@gov.bc.ca. Just a reminder that anyone submitting group photos needs to ensure that everyone in the photo is OK with their picture being published. The Road Runner can also be found on the MoT internet at: www.th.gov.bc.ca/publications/roadrunners/index-roadrunners.htm.

The Pacific Gateway video won three Telly awards for Cinematography/Production (silver), Government Communication (bronze) and Editing (bronze). The Telly awards are the Oscars of corporate video production. Silver is considered the top award, and bronze is considered the second highest. Approximately 13,000 corporate videos were nominated for Telly awards this year. Congratulations go to Steve Anderson, Al Szczawinski, Sharon Wilder, and our very own Mike LoVecchio for their great work!

You can see the video on the Pacific Gateway website at www.th.gov.bc.ca/pacificgateway. Just click on "videos". For those of you who are multilingual, it comes in English, Mandarin, Korean, Punjabi and Japanese.

Have you checked-out **MoT Image Gallery** recently? You can find over 6000 photos, a variety of PowerPoint Presen-

tations and videos related to MoT. It can be found at: www.th.gov.bc.ca/ImageGallery/home.aspx.

The Natural Resource Information Sector Newsletter can be found at http://ilmbgww.bcgov/CRIM/CRIO/NRSIC/Newsletter/files/NRS_Newsletter_20070320.pdf and at http://ilmbgww.bcgov/CRIM/CRIO/NRSIC/Newsletter/files/NRS_Newsletter_20070608.pdf.

Natural Resource Information Sector Newsletter

Did You Know?

A Collaborative Approach to Corporate Data Management

Data Integration: A Key to Success



Spring flower photos submitted by Beverly van Druten-Blais.



2nd Annual South Coast Regional Staff Meeting

Submitted by Viki Vourlis
Regional Management Administrator
South Coast Region

On February 8, 2007, over 300 South Coast employees attended "The Road to Being the Best! It's all about you!" our 2nd annual staff meeting.

Tracy Cooper started the day with a list of the great changes and successes South Coast Region has made since our last meeting, only one year earlier.

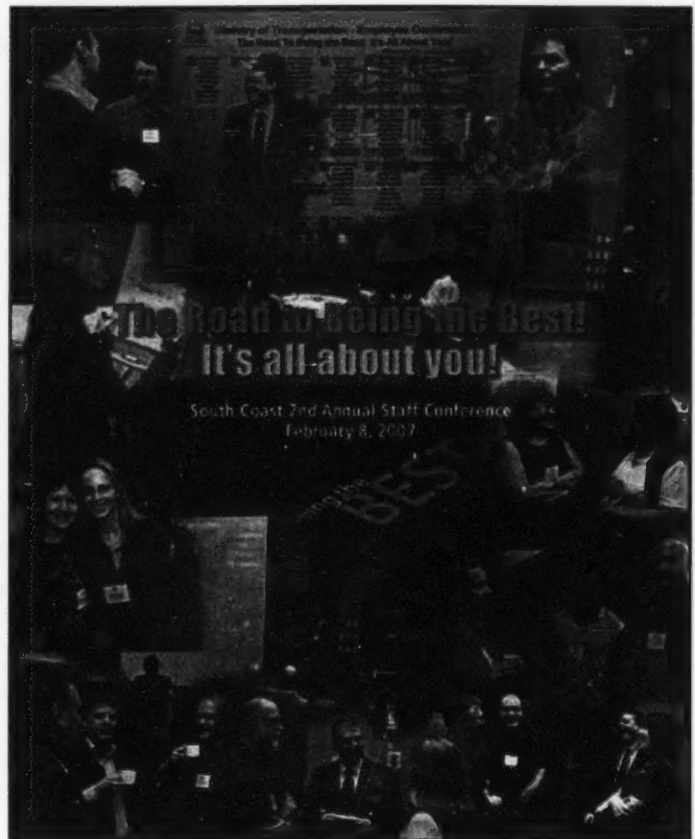
Lori Wiedman communicated with us the three important corporate HR goals; Building Our Internal Capacity, Improving Our Competitiveness and Managing Results. HR also has developed a great intranet site with an array of information geared to you the employee! Have a look at <https://gww.gov.bc.ca/>

Shanna Mason invigorated the day with her candid knowledge of employee engagement and thoughts of how to increase engagement. Shanna's presentation helped facilitate great conversation for our break-out groups.

John Dyble shared his appreciation and thanked the South Coast Region for all of the hard work he continues to see from our region, especially during the storms. John talked about what an exciting time it is to be at transportation: "We currently have the largest capital program ever and the Pacific Gateway is providing a clear vision and direction for our ministry!"

Staff broke into smaller work units to discuss, "How to increase employee engagement to become the Best Place to Work?" This gave staff an opportunity to discuss and share best practices with each other and look at new and innovative ways to retain staff.

Mike Proudfoot joined us to illustrate how South Coast Region can play an integral role in Gateway.



Mary Koyle shared the details of TransAction and what an exciting opportunity this was to not only encourage people to get moving, but to travel around the province and see what other MoT employees were doing.

Paul Squires spoke of the challenges that face the government as a whole and how they affect all of us. Three staggering statistics that Paul shared: Average engagement score across government is 58; 82% of government employees say that they are proud of the work; but last year, twice as many government employees resigned as they did retire.

In an ever-changing atmosphere, the clear message of the conference was we need to continue our efforts to make our government the Best Place to Work!